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NMED Loans \$500,000 to Americus LLC. to Clean Up former Albuquerque Landfill

(Santa Fe, N.M.) The New Mexico Environment Department will loan Americus LLC. \$500,000 to clean up a portion of a former City of Albuquerque landfill to make the property viable for redevelopment.

Developer John Mechenbier, managing member of Americus LLC., plans to turn the eight-acre "brownfield", or property blighted by existing or suspected environmental contamination, into a location for 120,300 square feet of office and warehouse space.

"It is gratifying when the Environment Department can collaborate with businesses to spur development in the state," said Secretary Ron Curry. "The money will help the developer transform a former landfill into an environmentally sound commercial property."

The buildings at the site will be constructed with the intent to provide space for commercial companies that find it advantageous to be situated in the North Interstate 25 sector. Plans for the property also include widening Venice Avenue on the north side of and installing utilities for future expansion.

Commercial and residential waste material was buried at the northern cell of the Coronado Landfill between 1963 and 1966. The City of Albuquerque monitored the groundwater in the area for several years and measurable levels of chlorinated solvents were detected. However, those levels were below state groundwater quality standards.

Financing for this project will be provided through the department's Brownfields Clean Up Revolving Loan Fund program. NMED receives funding for the loan program through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (For more information about Brownfields sites, visit http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/gwb/New_Pages/ROS_files/VRP_New/brownfields.htm)

For more information, contact Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314 Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Coordinator or Rick Shean at (505) 222-9550.

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