



Public Interest Center | P.O. Box 1049 | Columbus, OH | 43216-1049

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**MEDIA CONTACT:** Dina Pierce, (614) 644-2160  
**CITIZEN CONTACT:** Darla Peelle, (614) 644-2160

### **Ashland Property Receives Covenant Not to Sue Under Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program**

Through the voluntary efforts of an Ashland property owner, another area brownfield is ready for redevelopment after undergoing investigation and remediation under Ohio EPA's [Voluntary Action Program](#) (VAP). Ohio EPA has issued a covenant not to sue to Hospira Inc. (the volunteer) for the former Main Plant property, 268 East Fourth St., Ashland. Issuance of the covenant completes the volunteer's participation in the VAP.

The 7.65-acre property was used by Abbot Laboratories and the current owner, Hospira, from the early 1900s until 2007 to manufacture a wide variety of natural and synthetic rubber products. The site's buildings were demolished in 2009.

Following standards developed by Ohio EPA, the volunteer hired a certified environmental professional to assess the site, identify any areas of concern and remediate the contamination on the property to a level that allows for commercial or industrial redevelopment. The investigation identified areas of concern. Remediation included removing 1,258 tons of oil-contaminated soil and a light organic liquid contaminant from two ground water wells.

A covenant not to sue protects the property's owner or operator and future owners from being legally responsible to the State of Ohio for further investigation and remediation. This protection applies only when the property is used and maintained in accordance with the terms and conditions of the covenant.

In the 16 years since Ohio EPA issued the first covenant under VAP, more than 6,000 acres of blighted land have been revitalized at more than 300 sites across the state.

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