



OHIO BRIGHTFIELDS FACTSHEET

Understanding Brownfields & Brightfields

BROWNFIELDS

A “brownfield” is a property where site redevelopment or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of contamination. Common brownfields include former industrial sites, inactive landfills, closed factories or power plants, and abandoned mines.

BRIGHTFIELDS

A “brightfield” is a clean energy project (typically solar) on a brownfield. As of October 2024, only 15 of the [624 brightfield projects completed in the United States](#) were in Ohio.

By the numbers: The potential of Brightfields in Ohio

US EPA identified at least 1,758 Superfund, RCRA, brownfield, and landfill sites in Ohio that could be suitable for renewable energy. Repurposing **only 10% of the available acreage** for solar could result in:

Potential Benefits	Description
Land	13,000 acres of greenfields avoided
Power	1,900 MW of solar produced
Homes	320,000 homes powered
Jobs	10,000 jobs created and supported
Pollution	173 million tons of emissions reduced annually

Data from RE-Powering Tracking Matrix (US EPA), Independent Statistics and Analysis (US EIA), Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (US EPA), and Jobs and Economic Development Impact - Photovoltaic Models (US NREL)



Acreage By Site Type

Superfund	14,726
RCRA	46,989
Brownfields	70,580
Closed Landfills	5,924

Source: US EPA