



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **OAQDA Approves Funding for Ohio Small Businesses in Knox and Summit Counties**

COLUMBUS – Two new air quality improvement projects were approved during today’s monthly Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) board meeting. The Authority approved up to \$422,570 in bond financing for businesses in Knox and Summit counties to purchase and install energy-efficient equipment.

“The Authority recognizes that it can be challenging and time consuming to navigate environmental regulations and prioritize the costs associated with environmentally friendly upgrades to buildings and equipment,” said Christina O’Keeffe, executive director, OAQDA. “We’re pleased to offer financial assistance to support Ohio small businesses through our Clean Air Resource Center.”

The projects approved at OAQDA’s October 13, 2020 meeting are as follows:

- **Gault’s Plaza Cleaners & Laundromat** (Knox County) is a third-generation, family-owned dry-cleaner and laundromat in Mount Vernon, Ohio. OAQDA has approved up to \$85,210 in funding for the purchase of new dry-cleaning equipment that will replace outdated machines and will eliminate the use of PERC, a known carcinogen.
- **QT Equipment Company** (Summit County) is an Akron, Ohio-based business specializing in servicing and building field service trucks for construction companies, equipment dealers, mining companies, utility companies, municipalities and independent mechanics. The Authority granted up to \$337,360 in funding for QT Equipment’s expansion, which will include the installation of two down draft spray paint booths. The expansion will create 15 skilled labor jobs in the Akron area.

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*The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) is a non-regulatory government agency created to help Ohio businesses comply and go beyond clean air regulations. Since its creation in 1970, OAQDA has worked to prevent air pollution throughout the state of Ohio by providing businesses with the resources they need to reduce harmful air emissions and be more energy efficient while creating jobs and*

*boosting local economies. To date, OAQDA has awarded more than \$8 billion to finance air quality projects. For more information about OAQDA and its services, please visit [ohioairquality.org](http://ohioairquality.org).*