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## **OAQDA Approves More Than \$145,000 to Support Morrow County Steel Manufacturing Company with Air Quality Upgrades**

*Financial assistance allows Lincoln Center Manufacturing to purchase environmentally friendly paint equipment*

COLUMBUS – During this week’s Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) board meeting, the Authority approved bond financing for up to \$125,400 and a grant of up to \$20,000 to support Lincoln Center Manufacturing in Fulton, Ohio as it implements new air quality technology as part of its move into a new factory. The financing is provided through OAQDA’s Clean Air Resource Center (CARC), which makes clean air compliance easily accessible and affordable for Ohio small businesses.

“This new factory is anticipated to be one of the largest business additions in Fulton this year. The Authority looks forward to supporting these air quality efforts as Lincoln Center Manufacturing moves into its new space to accommodate its growth,” said Christina O’Keeffe, executive director of OAQDA. “The financing allows the company to create a safer working environment while protecting our air and supporting the economic vitality of the region.”

Lincoln Center Manufacturing engineers and produces custom metal products. For more than two decades, the company has designed and manufactured products out of aluminum, carbon and stainless steel for various purposes including septic waste and oil field vacuum trucks, truck bed tanks and handrails. They also specialize in custom design and fabrication work. The support from OAQDA allows the company to purchase a new Global Finishing Solution (GFS) drive-through paint spray booth. The equipment is expected to reduce air emissions and contribute to the improvement of employee health. It also will sustain 17 jobs and create at least one new full-time position.

“Fulton is a small, rural community and we are very proud to be part of the growing businesses in the area,” said Michelle Mounts, the operations director for Lincoln Center Manufacturing.

“The new paint booth has many features that make it a great fit at our facility, as it will help with energy efficiency improvements and emissions. We are very excited for this move and grateful to have been approved for this bond opportunity.”

OAQDA is committed to serving the economic and environmental needs of Ohio businesses and communities as they strive to reduce air emissions and achieve greater sustainability goals that protects the air. CARC offers financing packages that are structured to suit the needs of individual projects, which are incentivized with tax benefits using conduit bonds and grants to help small businesses cover a portion of the principal amount.

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*The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA), which is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021, 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 improve air quality by supporting businesses, creating jobs and improving communities while enhancing the health and safety of all Ohioans. 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).*