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OAQDA Approves up to \$66,000 to Support Installation of Clean Air Technology for Cleveland Area Small Business

COLUMBUS – During today’s Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) board meeting, the Authority approved bond financing totaling up to \$55,000 to support [Norge Cleaners](#) in Cuyahoga County as it implements clean air equipment upgrades. 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.

Norge Cleaners was approved for up to \$55,000 in financing along with up to an \$11,000 grant through the CARC program.

“We are proud to support Ohio dry cleaning companies like Norge Cleaners as they work to reduce air emissions by installing new, environmentally-friendly cleaning equipment,” said Christina O’Keeffe, executive director of OAQDA. “It not only enhances their business and supports job growth, but it also creates a healthier environment for employees and customers.”

Norge Cleaners, located at 19243 Detroit Road in Rocky River, Ohio is a family-owned and operated business that was started in 1955. Norge Cleaners offers dry cleaning, laundering and tailoring services, and is committed to using eco-friendly techniques including avoiding harmful toxic chemicals and only using solvents that are EPA approved.

The project includes the installation of a RealStar alternative solvent dry-cleaning machine with two tanks and two large format cartridge filters, water separator, floor guard and full computer control. The new equipment replaces an existing 30-year-old machine and will eliminate the use of PERC, a known carcinogen.

“We are dedicated to doing what is right for our staff and our environment,” said Peter Sulejmanaj, the owner of Norge Cleaners. “This support from OAQDA is much appreciated and will help us improve our operations while reducing air emissions and sustaining jobs.”

OAQDA is committed to serving the economic and environmental needs of Ohio small businesses and communities as they strive to reduce air emissions in protecting the air we breathe while increasing their economic growth. Through CARC, OAQDA 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 project costs.

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The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA), which is celebrating its 50th 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.