Niagara County Industrial Development Agency

6311 Inducon Corporate Dr. - Sanborn, New York 14132 (716) 278-8760 Fax (716) 278-8769

Application for Assistance

Please answer all questions on the Niagara County Industrial Development Agency Application and Environmental Assessment Form. Information submitted as part of this application will not be made public prior to the passage of an Official Action Resolution by the Agency. After such action, this information may be subject to disclosure under the New York State Freedom of Information Act.

Prior to application submission, this project was reviewed with <u>Lawrence Witul</u> of the Niagara County Industrial Development Agency and assigned Project Number _____.

I. Company Data

A. Company Name: Ashland Advanced Materials LLC.and/ or an entity to be

formed

Address: 6100/6200 Niagara Falls Blvd., Niagara Falls, New York 14304

Telephone: 419.281.5800 Fax: 419.281.0059

Email: mattr@reinekecompany.com Website: N/A

IRS Identification No.: 11-3840639

Company official completing this application and authorized to respond on behalf of the

company:

Name: Matt Reineke Title: President

B. Company Owners, Officers, Directors and Partners: List name and home address, title and other principal business affiliations.

Matt Reineke 21 Benton Road Saginaw, MI 48602 55% ownership in AAM LLC

Lee Reineke P.O. Box 199 Nankin, OH 44848 45% ownership in AAM LLC Ashland Advanced Materials LLC, (AAM LLC) is the operating company who will lease the Niagara Falls property from Graphite Mine Holdings LLC. Graphite Mine Holdings, LLC (GMH) is a NY Limited Liability Company that is privately owned by Lee and Matt Reineke for the purpose of owning the Niagara Falls property; 100% of GMH's shares are owned by Ashland Advanced Materials Inc.

Ashland Advanced Materials Inc. is a New York Sub chapter S corporation that is also privately owned by Lee and Matt Reineke with 100% of its' shares held by PMG Acquisitions Inc. DBA Americarb. Ashland was formed in March of 2008 to purchase certain assets and expand certain businesses of Reineke Advanced Technology Inc. and Amerciarb Inc., both wholly owned and operated by Lee and Matt Reineke.

	Matt Reineke Lee Reineke	21 Benton Road Saginaw, MI 48602 P.O. Box 199	55% 45%
	<u>Name</u>	Address	% of Holding
H.	Principal Stockholder	rs with 5% or more of stock outstanding	ng in the company:
G.	Is Company authorize	ed to do business in New York State?	Yes X No
F.	Type of Business	Corporation Sub Chapt Sole Proprietorship X Other	er S Partnership er LLC
E.	Principal Bank of Ac	count: Sutton Bank	
D.	Address: 9700 Ro Telephone: 216.573.	Ron Pribula, Kuhns, CPA's ckside Road, Cleveland OH 44125 7395 Fax: 216.573.7370 hnscpa.com	
	Address: 200 Telephone: 216.363.	Tegreene, Esq., Benesch Frielander et a Public Square, Suite 2300, Clevelan 4500 Fax: 216.363.4588 eene@bfca.com	

Nankin, OH 44848

I. List subsidiary, associate, and/or affiliated companies of applicant.

Ashland Advanced Materials LLC, (AAM LLC) is the operating company who will lease the Niagara Falls property from Graphite Mine Holdings LLC. Graphite Mine Holdings, LLC (GMH) is a NY Limited Liability Company that is owned by Lee and Matt Reineke for the purpose of owning the Niagara Falls property; 100% of GMH's shares are owned by Ashland Advanced Materials Inc.

Ashland Advanced Materials Inc. is a New York Sub chapter S corporation that is also privately owned by Lee and Matt Reineke with 100% of its' shares held by PMG Acquisitions Inc. DBA Americarb. Ashland was formed in March of 2008 to purchase certain assets and expand certain businesses of Reineke Advanced Technology Inc. and Amerciarb Inc., both wholly owned and operated by Lee and Matt Reineke.

J.	Is the Company or management of the Company now a plainting civil or criminal litigation? Yes No X	ff or a defendant in any
	Has any person listed above ever been convicted of a criminal traffic violation)? Yes No X	offense (other than a mino
	Has any person listed above or any concern with whom such person listed above or any concern with whom such person been in receivership or been adjudicated a bankrupt? Yes No X	erson has been connected
-	e answer to any of the above questions is yes, please, furnish detai hment.	ls in a separate
K.	Identify the assistance being requested of the Agency:	
	 X Bond financing for new project; estimated amount Bond/project refinancing; estimated amount X Lease/sale back Assignment of lease 	\$10,000,000 \$
	 (5) X Exemption from Sales Tax; estimated benefit (6) X Exemption from Mortgage Tax; estimated benefit (7) X Exemption from Real Property Tax; estimated benefit 	\$60,000 \$20,000 \$1,170,000
	If you have selected (5), (6) or (7), indicate whether you	are seeking a deviation

(8) X Other (please furnish details in a separate attachment) Direct Loan i/a/o \$450,000.

yes, please furnish details in a separate attachment.

from the Agency's uniform tax exemption policy: Yes ; No X If the answer is

II. Business Data

- A. Company Background
 - 1. Describe when and where was the company established?

Ashland Advanced Materials LLC (AAM LLC) is a graphite products company with manufacturing operations to be located in Niagara Falls, NY at 6100/6200 Niagara Falls Blvd. The company was formed on 5/08/2008, is owned by Matt and Lee Reineke and is authorized to do business in New York State. It will lease the production facilities from Graphite Mine Holdings LLC, also owned by Matt and Lee Reineke.

- 2. Describe the type of business

 Graphite Manufacturing and ultra high temperature heat treating.
- 3. Description of Present Facilities:

Lot size: 15 acres (approx.) - 2 parcels Number of buildings: 4

Square footage of facilities: Approx. 100,000 square feet total

- Owns OR X Rents present facilities (with option to purchase)
- 4. What is the present employment of the company?

Full Time 0 # Part Time 0

Estimated annual payroll: **\$0**

- 5. Approximate annual sales: **\$0**
- 6. Describe primary markets.

Companies requiring carbon structures such as nano tubes, carbon fibers, carbon fiber based rigid and flexible high temperature insulation, carbon composites, meso phase beads and high purity isostatic graphite, including, but not limited to those involved in the production of solar cells, fuel cells, wind mills and lithium ion batteries.

7. Provide a brief description of the company and its history.

Ashland Advanced Materials LLC was formed in 2008 to be a primary supplier of manufactured graphite products and ultra high temperature heat treating services. The company was formed to purchase the assets and expand certain businesses of Reineke Advanced Technology Inc. and Americarb, Inc., both of Ashland, Ohio. Ownership of Ashland Advanced Materials LLC is Matt Reineke (55%) and Lee Reineke (45%). The company is duly authorized to do business in New York State.

Provide types of business activity and approximate square feet of each for company's В. present facility:

	Square Feet
Manufacturing/Processing	85,000
Warehousing	
Research & Development	
Commercial	
Retail*	
Office	15,000
Other (specify)	

A retail business activity shall mean (i) sales by a registered vendor under article twentyeight of the New York tax law primarily engaged in the retail sale of tangible personal property, as defined in subparagraph (i) of paragraph four of subdivision (b) of section eleven hundred one of the tax law; or (ii) sales of a service to such customers.

Describe principal goods, products and/or services of the company: C.

Graphite products and ultra high temperature heat treating services.

III. Project Data

Location of Proposed Project: A.

Physical Address of proposed Project Site: 1.

Address:

6100/6200 Niagara Falls Boulevard

City, Town, Village: City of Niagara Falls, NY

County:

Niagara County

2.	New	York	State	Empire	Zone	Tax	Incentives.
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In addition to financial incentives that the Niagara County Industrial Development Agency can provide with respect to the proposed Project, the Project may also be eligible for New York State tax

<u>benef</u>	<u>īts (sales</u>	tax, incon	ne tax, a	<u>ınd real</u>	property to	<u>ax bene</u> j	<u>fits and</u>
<u>credi</u> i	ts) under	the New Y	ork State	<u>e Empire</u>	Zone Pro	gram.	<u>Empire</u>
					ently with N		
<u>Indus</u>	trial Deve	elopment A	gency be	enefits an	d incentive	S.	
Is the prop	osed Pro	ject Site lo	ocated in	ı an Emp	oire Zone?		
XY	es .	☐ No] Unsure			
(Ql	EZE Cer	tification i	n proces	is)			
							*
New York	State Bro	ownfield C	Cleanup 1	Program	Tax Incer	ıtives	
New Y	York State	e provides	for sign	ificant re	fundable N	Jew Yor	k State
		-		•	nstruction		
					ses, and in		
					Brownfield		
proper					provides fo		
					ation local		
					w York Sta		
					ilized con		
					t Agency	-	
incent							
<u>Under</u>	the New	York Brow	nfield C	leanup P	rogram, a	Brownf	ield or
				-	edevelopm		
	•	•		-	or potentia		-
<u>hazara</u>	lous wast	e, petroleu	m, pollu	tant, or c	contaminan	t (collec	ctively,
<u>"conta</u>	aminants'	<u>").</u>	_				
Is the propo	osed Proj	ect Site lo	cated on	a site w	here the ki	nown oi	r potential
presence of	a contan	ninant(s) is	s compli	cating th	ie developi	nent/us	e of the
property?							
ΧY	es	☐ No		Unsure			

3.

		X Yes	∐ No	Unsure	
	prop	osed Project	Site that indi	ssments been undertaken cate the known or suspect plicate the site's developm	ted presence of
		Yes Yes	☐ No	X Unsure	
Exis	sting Pro	oject Facilitie	s:		
_	ъ				D &
 2. 		If yes, indic	ouildings on the	(approx.) – 2 parcels O the Project site? Yes X; No ter of buildings on the site: 4 ter of building and indicate the	☐. 1 . Also, please b
	Are t	here existing landing landing landing identify east square feet)	ouildings on the cate the number of existing before of each such	ne Project site? Yes X; No[1. Also, please b approximate siz
	Are t	here existing landing If yes, indicidentify east square feet) Building I	ouildings on the cate the number ch existing b	ne Project site? Yes X; No er of buildings on the site: 4 uilding and indicate the	1. Also, please b approximate siz
	Are t	here existing land of the square feet) Building I Office	ouildings on the cate the number of existing before of each such	ne Project site? Yes X; No er of buildings on the site: 4 uilding and indicate the existing building:	1. Also, please b approximate siz
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	Are t	If yes, indice identify easyware feet) Building I Office Manufact Are the exist present use	ouildings on the cate the number of existing buildings on the cate of each such that the cate	ne Project site? Yes X; No[er of buildings on the site: 4 uilding and indicate the existing building: buse s in operation? Yes ; Nodings:	Also, please b approximate size Size 15,000 85,000

	d. A	ttach photograph of	f present build	ings.
3.	Identify p	resent landowner.	NFB Carbon	Properties, LLC (both parcels)
4.	Present zo	oning of site:	M2 – Heavy	Industrial
	Are there Yes No	any variances or sp	ecial permits a	affecting the Project site?
	If yes, list	below and attach c	opies of all su	ch variances or special permits.
5.	Provide Ta 160.07-3-3	ax Map (section/blo 38.1, 160.07-3-38.2	ock/lot) numbe 2 (6100 and 62	r(s): 200 Niagara Falls Blvd. respectively)
6.		nt assessed value: nt annual property to	ax payment:	\$732,375/\$371,500, respectively \$45,230.79/22,953.64 respectively
7.	Identify sc	hool district pertain	ning to Propose	ed Project location:
	Niagara F	alls		
Prop	osed Project	Facility and Equi	pment	
1.	Does part of building or	of the Project consist buildings? Yes X;	st of the acquis No No No No No No No No No No	ition or construction of a new
	If yes, indic	cate number and siz	e of new build	lings:
		n of 4 (four) existinare feet	ng buildings t	otaling approximately 100,000
2. 3.	Does part o	f the Project consis cated on the Projec	t of additions at site? Yes X;	and/or renovations to existing No□.
<i>5</i> .	If yes, indic expansions	ate the buildings to and the nature of ex	be expanded expansion and/o	or renovated, the size of any or renovation:
	New concre man	ete floor, patching ufacturing buildin	of metal wall ng.	s, internal repairs in main

C.

3. Describe the principal uses to be made by the Company of the building or buildings to be acquired, constructed or expanded:

Manufacturing of graphite products.

4. Will machinery and equipment be acquired and installed?

New: No

X Yes

Type Production (various)

Used: No

No X Yes

Type Production (various)

Describe the principal uses to be made by the Company of the Equipment to be acquired or installed:

The equipment will be used in the manufacturing of graphite products and for ultra high temperature heat treating.

- 5. Project Use
 - a. What are the principal products to be produced at the Project?

Carbon structures such as nano tubes, carbon fibers, carbon based rigid and flexible high temperature insulation, carbon-carbon composites, meso phase beads and high purity isostatic graphite used in technologies including, but not limited to solar cell, fuel cells, wind mills and lithium ion battery production.

5. Project Use

b. What are the principal activities to be conducted at the Project?

	%		%
Warehousing	10	Manufacturing	85
Processing		Pollution control	
Office	5	Research & Development	
Retail*		Commercial	
Recreational		Other:	

of tar subdi	e twent ngible p vision	tail business activity shall mean (i) sales by a registered vendor under ty-eight of the New York tax law primarily engaged in the retail sale personal property, as defined in subparagraph (i) of paragraph four of (b) of section eleven hundred one of the tax law; or (ii) sales of a sech customers.
c.	maki	the Project include facilities or property that are primarily used in ng retail sales of goods or services to customers who personally visit facilities? Yes; No X.
	If yes	s, please see Addendum A attached hereto.
d.	facilii "Proj	the completion of the Project result in the removal of a plant or ty of the Company or another proposed occupant of the Project (a ect Occupant") from one area of the State of New York to another of the State of New York? Yes No X If yes, please explain:
e.	more	the completion of the Project result in the abandonment of one or plants or facilities of the Company located in the State of New Yes No X
	If yes,	, please provide detail:
i.	If the any of	answer to either question (d) or question (e) is yes, indicate whether the following apply to the Project:
	(1)	Is the Project reasonably necessary to preserve the competitive position of the Company or such Project Occupant in its industry? Yes No
	(2)	If yes, please provide detail: Is the Project reasonably necessary to discourage the Company or such Project Occupant from removing such other plant or facility to a location outside the State of New York? Yes No
		If yes, please provide detail:

	0.	is this a single	pnase	or multi-phase	project?	Single	X Multi
	•	Phase I Activi	ties:	Acquisition oupgrades, 20	of property, 108	building renova	ıtions, utility
		Phase II Activ	ities:	Remediation production	, 2009 (or to	begin sooner, i	f cleared), some
		Phase III Activ	ities:	Full-scale pro	oduction (20	09)	
D.	Utiliti	es and services p	resent	ly serving site.	Provide nam	e of utility provi	der.
		Gas:	Nat	tional Fuel	Size:	6-7"	
		Electric:		ional Grid	Power:	3.5 MW	
		Water:	Mu	nicipal	Size:	2"	
		Sewer: Other (speci		nicipal	Size:	4", 10" con	nector
E.	What is	s your project tir	netable	e? (Provide date	-e)		
	1. 2.	Start date: acqui Completion of p Project occupan	isition project	or construction facilities:	of facilities:	2008 2010 (remedia 2008	ation)
F.	Have an project?	ny contracts or p	urchas X Yes	es been made,	committed ar	nd/or executed to	ward the
	If yes, p	olease provide de	etail:	Lease with purc	chase option:	for property	
G.	Has any	work toward th	e com	pletion of the pr	roject been in	itiated? X No [∐Yes,
	If yes, p	lease provide de	etail: _				

H. Will the project require any government actions, permits or clearances (other than IDA requirements)? If yes, please provide the following details:

Action	Issuing Agency	Date of Issuance
Site Facilities Air Permit	NYSDEC	TBD
SPEDES Permit	NYSDEC	TBD
Industrial Discharge Permit	City of N. Falls	TBD
Environmental Justice		

- I. Include any site plans, drawings or blueprints that have been developed.
- J. Does the Company intend to lease or sublease more than 10% (by area or fair market value) of the Project? Yes : No X . If yes, please complete the following for each existing or proposed tenant or subtenant:

Sublessee name:
Present Address:
Address:
Employer's ID No.:

Sublessee is: Corporation Partnership Sole Proprietorship

Relationship to Company:

Percentage of Project to be leased or subleased: %

Use of Project intended by Sublessee:

Date of lease or sublease to Sublessee:

Will any portion of the space leased by this sublessee be primarily used in making retail sales of goods or services to customers who personally visit the Project?

Yes No.

Term of lease or sublease to Sublessee:

If yes, please provide on a separate attachment: (a) details, and (b) the answers to questions III(D)(6)(c) through (f) with respect to each such sub lessee.

K. Describe the reasons why this project is necessary and what effect it will have on your company:

Recent technological advances, increasing world-wide demand and rising energy costs have made it economically feasible for large-scale production of carbon-based components required for solar cells, fuel cells, wind mills and lithium batteries. The acquisition of this facility will make it possible for Ashland to produce at rates that out paces current supply from the market and for the future. The availability of key personnel from the previous graphite company that vacated the property in 2002 will help to make the proposed Niagara Falls operation a force to be dealt with in the world-wide market for carbon products.

Incentives from various sources are absolutely necessary in order to incentive the project to locate in New York State, as the state of Ohio has generous grant programs through its "Third Frontier Program" that are available to the company.

IV. Employment Impact

- A) Will Niagara County contractors and / or sub contractors be utilized for the construction project? Yes X No.
- B) What is the estimated number of construction jobs to be created at the project site from Niagara County: 12 Eric County 1 Other Areas 2 (National Maintenance Contracting Corp. and Niagara Lock)
- C) Indicate below the number of people presently employed at the Project site and the number that will be employed at the Project site at end of the first and second years after the Project has been completed (Do not include construction workers). Also indicate below the number of workers employed at the Project site representing newly created positions as opposed to positions relocated from other project sites of the applicant.

	TYPE OF EMI	PLOYMENT		
	PROFESSIONAL	SKILLED		
	OR	OR SEMI-		
	MANAGERIAL	SKILLED	UNSKILLED	TOTALS
Present Full Time	0	0	0	0
Present Part Time	0	0	0	0
Present Seasonal	0	0	0	0
First Year Full Time (by 12/31/09)	5	35	20	60

TYPE OF EMI	PLOYMENT		
PROFESSIONAL OR MANAGERIAL	SKILLED OR SEMI- SKILLED	UNSKILLED	TOTALS
0	0	0	0
7*	45*	23*	75*
0	0	0	0
	PROFESSIONAL OR MANAGERIAL 0 0 7*	OR SEMI-SKILLED 0 0 0 0 0 0 7* 45*	PROFESSIONAL OR OR SEMI-MANAGERIAL SKILLED OR SEMI-SKILLED UNSKILLED 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 7* 45* 23* 0 0 0 0

^{*} Job numbers for the second year are written as cumulative totals.

V. Project Cost Data

A. Give breakdown of project costs:

Land	\$300,000
Buildings: Acquisition	\$1,490,000
Renovation	\$550,0000
New Construction	\$0
Demolition	\$
Utilities and Road	\$
Site work and preparation	\$
Acquisition of machinery & equipment	\$7,000,000
Installation	\$
Architectural and engineering fees	\$
Legal fees	\$
Interest during construction	\$
Other	\$400,000
TOTAL	\$9,740,000
An additional \$9,550,000, primarily	
comprised of equipment purchases, furniture	
and renovations is projected in years four	
and five, this bringing the five year total to \$19,290,000.	

]	Have any of these expenditures be	en incurred to	date? X No [Yes	If yes, ide
-	 				
5	Summary of Financing				
	Total Project Costs		\$.	9,740,000	
	Amount of Bond or Leaseback f	inancing	g :	740,000	
	Amount of Conventional finance			1 70,000	
	Equity	s			
_				·	,
V p	Will any part of the project be finar lease provide detail:	nced with fund	s of the compan	y? X No	Yes, If
V p	Vill any part of the project be finar lease provide detail:	nced with fund	s of the compan	y? X No	Yes, If
P	Vill any part of the project be finar lease provide detail:	nced with fund	s of the compan	y? X No	Yes, If
p	Vill any part of the project be finar please provide detail: Vill other forms of government finar yes, please provide detail:				
p W If	Vill other forms of government finally yes, please provide detail: Program		to undertake th	e project:	□No X
WIf	Vill other forms of government final yes, please provide detail:	ancing be used		e project:	□No X

E.	Have financial institutions or potential bond purchasers been approached? X No	Yes
	If yes, please provide detail:	

F. List capital expenditures of the company:

	Past 3 years	Next 3 years
Real Property	\$0	\$550,000
Buildings (includes	\$0	\$1,790,000
land cost of \$300K)		
Equipment	\$0	\$7,000,000

VI. Financial and Feasibility Data

A. Describe the need or demand for the product or services to be provided as a result of the project: World-wide demand for graphite and related products has greatly increased of late, spurred on by supply-demand factors, increasing utility costs, heightened interest in alternative energy sources and economic factors. This facility will allow Advanced to produce graphite products for those markets in an economically-viable manner and in a large-scale way. B. Has the company utilized bond financing before? X No Yes. C. Provide any marketing, economic and/or feasibility studies that have been developed, particularly for tourist destination facilities. (See attached materials) D. The following information will be required by the Agency and returned once an action of the Agency has been taken: Financial statements for the last three (3) years; 1.

2. Projections for the next three (3) years including Balance Sheets, Profit and Loss Statements, Cash Flow Statements by quarters, etc.

VII. Financial Assistance Expected From The Agency

A. Tax Benefits.

1.	Is the applicant requesting any real property tax exemption in connection with the Project that would not be available to a project that did not involve the Agency Yes X No
	If yes, is the real property tax exemption being sought consistent with the Agency's Uniform Tax Exemption Policy? Yes X No
2.	Is the applicant expecting that the financing of the Project will be secured by one or more mortgages? Yes X No

	If yes, what is the approximate amount of financing to be secured by mortgages? \$ 2,000,000.
3.	Is the applicant expecting to be appointed agent of the Agency for purposes of avoiding payment of N.Y.S. Sales Tax or Compensating Use Tax? Yes X No.
	If yes, what is the approximate amount of purchases which the applicant expects to be exempt from the N.Y.S. Sales and Compensating Use Taxes? \$1,000,000.
4.	What is the estimated value of each type of tax-exemption being sought in connection with the Project? Please detail the type of tax-exemption and value of each exemption. a. N.Y.S. Sales and Compensating Use Taxes: \$80,000 b. Mortgage Recording Taxes: \$20,000 c. Real Property Tax Exemptions: \$1,170,000 d. Other (please specify): \$
5.	Are any of the tax-exemptions being sought in connection with the Project inconsistent with the Agency's Uniform Tax-exemption Policy? Yes No X.
	If yes, please explain how the request of the applicant differs from the Agency's Uniform Tax-Exemption Policy:

VIII. Representations By The Applicant

The applicant understands and agrees with the Agency as follows:

- A. <u>Job Listings</u>. In accordance with Section 858-b(2) of the New York General Municipal Law, the applicant understands and agrees that, if the Project receives any Financial Assistance from the Agency, except as otherwise provided by collective bargaining agreements, new employment opportunities created as a result of the Project will be listed with the New York State Department of Labor Community Services Division (the "DOL") and with the administrative entity (collectively with the DOL, the "JTPA Entities") of the service delivery area created by the federal job training partnership act (Public Law 97-300) ("JTPA") in which the Project is located.
- B. <u>First Consideration for Employment</u>: In accordance with Section 858-b(2) of the New York General Municipal Law, the applicant understands and agrees that, if the Project receives any Financial Assistance from the Agency, except as otherwise provided by collective bargaining agreements, where practicable, the applicant will first consider persons eligible to participate in JTPA programs who shall be referred by the JTPA Entities for new employment opportunities created as a result of the Project.
- C. <u>Annual Sales Tax Filings</u>: In accordance with Section 874(8) of the New York General Municipal Law, the applicant understands and agrees that, if the Project receives any sales tax exemptions as part of the Financial Assistance from the Agency, in accordance with Section 874(8) of the General Municipal Law, the applicant agrees to file, or cause to be filed, with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, the annual form prescribed by the Department of Taxation and Finance, describing the value of all sales tax exemptions claimed by the applicant and all consultants or subcontractors retained by the applicant.
 - D. <u>Annual Employment Reports</u>: The applicant understands and agrees that, if the Project receives any Financial Assistance from the Agency, the applicant agrees to file, or cause to be filed, with the Agency, on an annual basis, reports regarding the number of people employed at the project site.
 - E. Absence of Conflicts of Interest: The applicant has received from the Agency a list of the members, officers and employees of the Agency. No member, officer or employee of the Agency has an interest, whether direct or indirect, in any transaction contemplated by this Application, except as hereinafter described:

CERTIFICATION

(to be executed by the principal of the applicant and acknowledged by a notary public)

- I. Lee Reineke, deposes and says that he/she is the CEO of Ashland Advanced Materials LLC. named in the attached Application (the "Applicant"); that he/she has read the foregoing Application and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true to his/her knowledge.
- II. The grounds for deponent's belief relative to all matters in the Application which are not stated upon his/her own personal knowledge, are investigations which deponent has caused to be made concerning the subject matter of the Application, as well as information acquired by deponent in the course of his/her duties as an officer of and from the books and papers of said corporation or other entity.
 - II. As an officer of the Applicant deponent acknowledges and agrees that the Applicant shall be and is responsible for all costs incurred by the Agency and all legal counsel for the Agency, including its general counsel and/or bond/transaction counsel, whether or not the Application, the proposed project it describes, the attendant negotiations, or the issue of bonds or other transaction or agreement are ultimately ever carried to successful conclusion and agrees that the Agency shall not be liable for and agrees to indemnify, defend and hold the Agency harmless from and against any and all liability arising from or expense incurred by (A) the Agency's examination and processing of, and action pursuant to or upon, the Application, regardless of whether or not the Application or the proposed project described herein or the tax exemptions and other assistance requested herein are favorably acted upon by the Agency, (B) the Agency's acquisition, construction and/or installation of the proposed project described herein and (C) any

further action taken by the Agency with respect to the proposed project; including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all causes of action and attorney's fees and any other expenses incurred in defending any suits or actions which may arise as a result of any of the foregoing.

- IV. By executing and submitting this Application, the Applicant covenants and agrees to pay the following fees to the Agency and the Agency's general counsel and/or the Agency's bond/transaction counsel, the same to be paid at the times indicated:
 - (a) The sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) as a non-refundable processing fee, plus the sum of _____ if Agency assistance in retaining professionals is requested, to be paid upon submission of the Application;
 - (b) Unless otherwise agreed to by the Agency, an amount equal to-one and one quarter percent (1.25%) of the total project costs to be paid at transaction closing;

- (c) All fees, costs and expenses incurred by the Agency for (1) legal services, including but not limited to those provided by the Agency's general counsel and/or the Agency's bond/transaction counsel, thus note that the Applicant is entitled to receive a written estimate of fees and costs of the Agency's general counsel and the Agency's bond/transaction counsel; and (2) other consultants retained by the Agency in connection with the proposed project; with all such charges to be paid by the applicant at the closing.
- V. By executing and submitting this Application, and in the event the closing does not occur, the Applicant further covenants and agrees to pay the following fees to the Agency and the Agency's general counsel and/or the Agency's bond/transaction counsel:
 - (a) If the Applicant fails to conclude or consummate the necessary negotiations, or fails, within a reasonable or specified period of time, to take reasonable proper or requested action, or withdraws, abandons, cancels, or neglects the Application, the Applicant shall pay to the Agency, its agents, or assigns, upon presentation of an invoice, a sum of one and one quarter percent (1.25%) of (i) the amount of bond financing requested; or (ii) the amount on which the financial assistance for the proposed project was determined, and upon presentation of an invoice, all actual costs involved with respect to the Application, including but not necessarily limited to fees of the Agency's general counsel and/or the Agency's bond/transaction counsel; or
 - (b) If the Applicant is unable to find buyers willing to purchase the bond issue requested, or if the Applicant is unable to facilitate the sale/leaseback transaction, then upon presentation of an invoice, all actual costs involved with respect to the Application, up to that date and time, incurred by the Agency including but not necessarily limited to fees of the Agency's general counsel and/or the Agency's bond/transaction counsel.
- VI. The Applicant acknowledges and agrees that all payment liabilities to the Agency and the Agency's general counsel and/or the Agency's bond and/or transaction counsel as expressed in Sections IV and V are obligations that are not dependent on final documentation of the transaction contemplated by this Application.
- VI. The cost incurred by the Agency and paid by the Applicant, including bond/transaction counsel fees and the Agency's general counsel's fees and the processing fees, may be considered as a costs of the project and included in the financing of costs of the proposed project, except as limited by the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to tax-exempt bond financing.
- VI. The Applicant is aware and acknowledges that according to the New York Public Officer's Law, Article 6, Freedom of Information, the public has the right to request information about the project and the Applicant, and that in accordance with Public Officer's Law Article 7, all meetings of the Agency are open to the public.