

Recommended Award: Exhibit "A"

Applicant Name:	Eden Valley Growers	REDC Region:	Western New York
Project Type:	Business Investment	County:	Erie
Industry:	Agriculture	Locality:	Eden
Amount Requested:	\$80,000	Start Date:	03/15/2014
		Finish Date:	05/15/2014

RECOMMENDED OFFER

Recommended Total Award:	\$80,000
Total Project Cost:	\$400,000
% of Project Cost Recommended:	20%

REGIONAL IMPACT MEASUREMENTS

Number of Jobs Retained:	20
Number of Jobs Created:	6
Average Salary of Jobs:	\$35,000
Indirect Jobs Created	
Other Impact	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Eden Valley Growers (EVG), a cooperative of ten farms on 1,000 acres in Eden, proposes to meet new market demand by building a new staging/packing area to increase output on produce and value added products. The expansion is needed to meet increasing demand for fresh, locally grown vegetables and fruits while at the same time maintaining food safety standards.

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Eden Valley Growers Co-op in Eden New York has long had a notable and valuable presence in WNY agriculture. This co-op has recently been offered an opportunity by Regional and Statewide grocers to significantly increase the purchase of their products. To achieve the necessary production to fulfill this new demand, the co-op must build a new cooling/staging/packing area to handle increased capacity. Fostering the growth of the agricultural industry across WNY has been deemed a high priority part of achieving a balanced approach to regional Economic development.

The Eden Valley Growers Co-op has put together a budget of \$400,000 for this project. Eighty percent would be financed through its own investment and a loan/grant term from Farm Credit East. It is recommended that the Board recommend an award of \$80,000 to fill the funding gap for the project which would be payable upon verification of project completion.