

# Business Gift Acceptance Policy

Private sector support is important to the Ohio Environmental Council’s efforts to promote clean air and water and protect natural areas that are important to the quality of life in our communities. The Ohio Environmental Council seeks support from businesses that are committed to environmental protection and have track records that respect human rights, safe workplaces and equal opportunity. The Ohio Environmental Council will avoid soliciting or accepting contributions from businesses whose operations include practices deemed unacceptable and contrary to the values implicit in the Ohio Environmental Council’s mission.

In order to maintain a fiscally responsible balance of funding sources, no more than 15% of the Council’s operating budget shall come from the combined gifts from businesses, unless approved by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to turn down any gift which, in its judgment, would not be mission fulfilling or poses a real or potential conflict of interest.

Unrestricted general support, program support, grants or event sponsorship from businesses and/or corporate foundations may be accepted if they meet the following criteria:

1. The business entity has a clear understanding of the goals of Ohio Environmental Council.
2. The individual contribution is less than 5% of the total operating budget, unless approved by the Board of Directors.
3. Acceptance of the gift does not hinder the Ohio Environmental Council’s ability to comment on, litigate or participate in processes related to any permit, bill, policy, or related decision.
4. The contribution in no way limits or places expectations—written or unspoken—on actions the Ohio Environmental Council may take or policies the Ohio Environmental Council may advocate.
5. Any reports or information compiled which were made possible through business support remains the property of the Ohio Environmental Council and will be distributed in a manner consistent with all other reports and information.

## Received by corporate donor:

\_\_\_\_\_

Business name

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact name and title

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date