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Indeck Energy, Awards, Relocation, Expansion, International Trade

Indeck Energy to Produce Alternative Energy Source Product in Pike County

Indeck Energy announced this week that the company will construct a wood pellet mill in Magnolia, located in Pike County. The \$12 million mill will be situated on ten acres in the Metro-Pike Industrial Park and will create 20 new jobs with an average annual salary of \$30,000. MDA is providing Pike County with \$522,000 in Katrina CDBG funds to build a 1,070-foot rail spur into the facility.

Indeck Energy, owner and operator of renewable and conventional energy projects, chose Mississippi as the location for its newest wood pellet mill because of the state's abundance of raw materials and the potential market for the product in poultry farming. The pellets that will be produced can have a number of uses: they can be used to supplant a percentage of petroleum-based fuel that is used for warming poultry houses; they can aid in replacing a percentage of fossil fuels in electrical generation facilities; and they can be used for residential heating. The mill is expected to begin operations in August 2009.

To learn more about Indeck Energy, please visit their website at www.indeck-energy.com.

MDA Awards CDBG Community Self-Help and CDBG Emergency Public Facilities Funding for Four Projects throughout State

MDA's Community Services Division recently awarded CDBG Community Self-Help and CDBG Emergency Public Facilities funding for four improvement projects in communities throughout the state. Community Self-Help funding is used for local needs such as water, wastewater, downtown improvements, recreation, etc. In order to receive Emergency Public Facilities funding, a project must prove a particular urgency due to existing conditions that pose a threat to the health or welfare of a community. It must also meet other criteria such as the date of occurrence of the emergency condition. Funds awarded include:

- **CDBG Community Self-Help**
 - **Town of Braxton** - \$100,000 for a community center
 - **Town of Falkner** - \$100,000 for park improvements
- **CDBG Emergency Public Facilities**
 - **City of McComb** - \$66,268.74 for drainage improvements

- o **Prentiss County** - \$80,053 for the repair of a water line

Mid-South Fair Relocating from Memphis to Tunica

The Mid-South Fair, which has been held in Memphis since 1856, is relocating to Tunica. Fair officials announced over the summer that they had accepted a proposal from Tunica officials, and the new fairgrounds will be constructed on 150 acres in the middle of a wheat field off of Highway 61. The Mid-South Fair is redeveloping into an organization that holds year-round events which is beneficial for Tunica; the fair's move will provide more options to attract visitors to the area.

The new fairgrounds will be a \$70 million investment to Tunica and the state of Mississippi. According to the current relocation timeline, construction of the fair complex will be completed in August 2009 with the 153rd Annual Mid-South Fair beginning on Sept. 18, 2009.

Dynasteel Expansion in Iuka to Create 50 New Jobs

A 42,000 square foot expansion to Dynasteel Corporation's Yellow Creek Port plant in Iuka, Miss., will add production capacity as well as 50 new metal fabrication jobs. Currently, the facility has approximately 150 employees. Dynasteel has plans to incorporate a teaching lab into the facility in order to provide local workers with the welding skills needed for the high-paying jobs the company has to offer. The expansion is scheduled for completion by the end of the year. MDA provided the company with training and tax credits.

Based out of Memphis, Tenn., Dynasteel also operates a plant in Natchez. According to the company's website, www.dynasteel.net, Dynasteel is an "ASME certified specialty steel fabricator servicing the power, chemical, woodworking, grain, cement, steel and other industries." The company first began operations in 1970.

State Pursues Opportunities to Enhance Relationship between Mississippi and China

In an effort to increase Chinese investment to Mississippi, the State recently hosted a luncheon for Chinese Ambassador Wenzhong Zhou. The ambassador's visit provided an opportunity to further build relationships with the People's Republic of China as those in attendance discussed investment and trade between China and Mississippi.

In early 2000, MDA saw potential for expanding trade and investment with China and subsequently opened a representative office in Shanghai in 2004. Since then, Mississippi has pursued an aggressive strategy to export Mississippi products and services to China through meetings with business leaders and government officials. This year, MDA's International Trade Office has participated in four major events to encourage Chinese investment to Mississippi: Interzum Guangzhou, a major exhibition for hardwood and other wood products for the building industry; Dalian Furniture Components and Raw Materials Exhibition; Regional Airport

Summit in Chengdu; and China Aviation Congress 2008. MDA is currently planning additional investment promotion activities and missions to China's second and third tiered markets.