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Commerce

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Economic Development
Partnership of Alabama

North Alabama Industrial
Development Association

PowerSouth Energy
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West Franklin Regional Industrial Park receives AdvantageSite designation

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 16 – West Franklin Regional Industrial Park in Franklin County has received Alabama AdvantageSite designation.

The AdvantageSite program requires that community economic development organizations provide documentation specific to a proposed industrial site, including a set of standard data related to ownership/control, environmental and geotechnical conditions, and infrastructure status. Sites must also meet size, zoning and accessibility requirements.

The West Franklin Regional Industrial Park is a 55-acre site located within the city limits of Red Bay. The site is 18 miles from Interstate 22, with Alabama 24, running through the property. The largest contiguous tract of the site is 35 acres with all utilities at the site.

The application process for the site was managed locally by the Franklin County Development Authority with a team of local entities supporting and/or participating in the process.

Red Bay Mayor Bobby Forsythe said, “This is a big step in showing that the City of Red Bay is committed to working with our current industry, and it gives us an advantage as we recruit new industry. We live in a competitive world today, so any leverage in marketing our site is very beneficial.”

Franklin County Development Authority Executive Director Mitch Mays said, “With Red Bay’s close proximity to Toyota in Tupelo, Miss., and their current strong industrial base, this is a great way to show they are ready for industry. Red Bay has worked hard to gain this AdvantageSite designation, and it speaks well to their commitment of preparing for the future economy of their city.”

AdvantageSite is a teamwork approach between the private sector and state and local governments. It is geared toward having prepared product and materials ready for industrial prospects.

The program is jointly sponsored by the Alabama Department of Commerce, Alabama Gas Corp., Alabama Power Co., the North Alabama Industrial Development Association, PowerSouth Energy Cooperative, and coordinated by the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama. Representatives from each of the entities actively participate in application reviews and on-site visits to prospective AdvantageSite designees.

AdvantageSite is a voluntary industrial site preparedness program created in order to make the state more competitive for companies considering a location in Alabama. Thirteen projects have located on sites with AdvantageSite designations since the program’s inception in 2008. These projects represent the creation of more than 2,900 jobs and \$597 million in capital investments.

For more information on the AdvantageSite program, please visit www.edpa.org/bsc/advantagesites.asp.