



Alabama Department of
Commerce

Alagasco

Alabama Power Company

Economic Development
Partnership of Alabama

North Alabama Industrial
Development Association

PowerSouth Energy
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Black Forest Industrial Park receives AdvantageSite designation

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., January 22 – Black Forest Industrial Park in Dale County has received its first 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 52-acre industrial park is located within the city limits of Ozark. The site is accessible from Jernigan Road which is a city-maintained, two-lane road. The entrance to the park is about 1/8th of a mile from U.S. Highway 231. A CSX rail line runs along the west side of the site and can be a viable rail site, depending on specific service requirements. The park also has a 29,580-square foot spec building that is for sale or lease and can be finished to the clients' specifications.

The application process was managed locally by the Ozark-Dale County Economic Development Corporation with a team of local entities supporting and/or participating in the process.

Ozark Mayor Billy Blackwell said, "The AdvantageSite designation that we have received for the Black Forest Industrial Park is a significant event. The AdvantageSite program has a tremendous success record in locating new industrial projects in Alabama. With this designation, Ozark will receive more looks from companies as our site is now qualified as shovel-ready."

AdvantageSite is a teamwork approach between the private sector and state and local governments geared toward having prepared product and materials ready for industrial prospects. Alabama now has 47 active AdvantageSites through out the state.

The program is jointly sponsored by the Alabama Department of Commerce, Alagasco, 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. Fourteen projects have located on sites with AdvantageSite designations since the program's inception in 2008. These projects represent the creation of more than 3,000 jobs and \$665 million in capital investments.

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