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Two Jones County Industrial Properties Earn Cooperative Energy SiteInvest Premier Property Designation

Laurel, MS – The Economic Development Authority of Jones County is proud to announce that the I-59 South Industrial Site and the I-59 Supply Chain Park have been awarded the prestigious Cooperative Energy SiteInvest Premier Property designation, recognizing readiness and potential for industrial development. This designation places these sites among the top-tier properties in the state, a testament to the community's commitment to economic growth and development.

The I-59 South Industrial Site and the I-59 Supply Chain Park are two of only six sites across the Cooperative Energy service territory to achieve this designation in the first round of the SiteInvest program. This recognition comes after a thorough review process, including rigorous evaluation by third-party engineering experts, Burns & McDonnell, as part of Cooperative Energy's strategic initiative to enhance industrial property readiness.

The development of the two industrial sites has been bolstered by significant financial support through Cooperative Energy's Cooperative Competes grant program, the Mississippi Development Authority Site Development Program, and local investment. To date, \$9.7 million has been invested in the sites to enhance infrastructure, improve site readiness, and ensure it meets the criteria for industrial development. These funds have been crucial in advancing the sites through the tiers of the SiteInvest program, culminating in its designation as a Premier Property.

"Receiving the SiteInvest Premier Property designation for the I-59 South Industrial Site and the I-59 Supply Chain Park is a tremendous achievement for our community," said Ross Tucker, Economic Development Authority of Jones County president. "This recognition validates the hard work and investment we've made in preparing this site for industrial development. We're excited about the new opportunities this brings for attracting businesses and creating jobs in Jones County".

The SiteInvest program, launched by Cooperative Energy in 2023, is designed to improve the development of industrial properties within the service territories of Cooperative Energy's Members. The program aligns with Cooperative Energy's broader economic development efforts, which include the Cooperative Competes grant program, aimed at fostering competitive industrial sites across the state.

"Designating the I-59 South Industrial Site and the I-59 Supply Chain Park as SiteInvest Premier Properties is a key milestone in our efforts to foster economic development across our Members' service areas," said Mitch Stringer, Cooperative Energy's director of economic development. "This site's readiness, enhanced by our grant funding, positions Jones County as a prime destination for industrial growth and job creation."

About the I-59 South Industrial Site

The I-59 Industrial Site is 440+/- acres adjacent to Highway 11 in Ellisville, MS. Norfolk Southern Railroad mainline serves the site. Jones County Junior College's Advanced Training Center is in the adjacent Technology Park. The University of Southern Mississippi's Polymer Science Institute is only minutes south of the site, and countless amenities are offered in nearby Laurel and Hattiesburg Metro Area. For more information about the industrial property visit <https://cooperativeenergy.com/economic-development/i-59-industrial-site/>.



About the I-59 Supply Chain Park

Located adjacent to Interstate 59 between Laurel and Hattiesburg, the I-59 Supply Chain Park offers 164 acres with interstate frontage. It is owned and managed by the Airport Authority, and all utilities are located within the park. Although it is in Jones County, it is funded by both Jones and Forest County's Boards of Supervisors. Both the Economic Development Authority of Jones County and Area Development Partnership market the Site for future development. For more information about the industrial property visit <https://cooperativeenergy.com/economic-development/i-59-supply-chain-park/>.



About Cooperative Energy

Cooperative Energy generates and transmits electricity to 11 Member-owned electric distribution cooperatives. Known as the Power of 12, Cooperative Energy and its Member cooperatives work together to provide safe, reliable, and affordable power from the Mississippi Delta to the Coast. The 11 electric cooperatives own and maintain more than 58,000 miles of distribution lines and provide service to more than one million Mississippians throughout 55 counties.

