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Lenowisco to be 'anchor tenant' in new facility

Posted: Thursday, July 2, 2009 2:56 am

The Scott County Economic Development Authority has announced its first tenant in the newly completed Crooked Road Technology Center located in the e-Corridor Technology Park at Duffield.

The Lenowisco Planning District Commission has agreed to be the "anchor tenant" and will occupy 8,548 sq. ft. of space in a facility that currently measures 39,036 sq. ft. total, according to a Wednesday press release. The building will be owned and operated by the Scott County Economic Development Authority.

Funding for the project came from a variety of sources, including $4.5 million from the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission, $450,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission, $400,000 from the Lenowisco Planning District Commission as a result of the sale of its current facility to Holston Medical Group, a direct appropriation of $250,000 from the Scott County Board of Supervisors and an additional $250,000 from the Duffield Development Authority as a dividend to Scott County.

EDA Chairman Joe Fuller noted in the release that he is pleased to have Lenowisco as the first tenant, citing Lenowisco's position national leader in infrastructure development leading to job creation.

"Lenowisco is now well positioned to assist the entire planning district service area with planning and economic development assistance with extremely useful technology that will be the envy of other regions of the state and beyond," stated Mark Carter, chairman of the Lenowisco Board of Directors.

Dr. David Redwine, chairman of the Scott County Board of Supervisors also indicated his support for the agency and said "This building grew out of the longtime collaboration and partnership that Scott County has had with Lenowisco. We anticipate the Technology Center will positively position Scott County for jobs in the new economy."

"Technology jobs are the type of jobs many regions of the country are going after," stated Ronnie Short, incoming chairman of the Lenowisco board. "We need facilities to market that put us at an advantage. With Lenowisco occupying space in this facility, Scott County will get productive use of the asset early on and be ready to capitalize when the nation overcomes the current recession."

The Lenowisco Planning District Commission was chartered in 1965 and is designed to assist the local governments in Lee, Scott, Wise Counties and the City of Norton with regional solutions to problems common to all.

Historically, economic development and planning have been its strategic focus through utilizing improvements in infrastructure of all types, including water, sewer, roads and telecommunications, the release notes.

Scott County EDA's mission is to act as a catalyst for economic development in order to create employment opportunities, increase the tax base, and diversify the economic quality of life for all Scott County citizens.

Additional space, both finished, and "build to suit" is currently available in the Crooked Road Technology Center. Inquiries should be directed to John Kilgore, Director of Economic Development at 276-386-2525 or jkilgore@scottcountyva.com, according to the release.

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