

THE JACKSON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



“To develop and maintain an economic climate, which creates and retains jobs and enhances the quality of life for all citizens of Jackson/Madison County and West Tennessee.”

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 21, 2010

Jackson, Tenn. has site potential for data center

JACKSON, TN – A site at Tiger Jones Technology Park in Jackson has favorable attributes to attract a data center project according to a recent Deloitte Consulting study, an economic development study sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). The site is already home to UGN, Inc. and ARJ Manufacturing in Jackson.

TVA and Chicago-based Deloitte Consulting assessed more than 50 sites across the TVA service area for their capacity to accommodate data centers -- specially designed facilities that house computer systems and components for Internet search engine companies, financial transaction processors, and other high-tech industries.

Jackson was one of 12 sites named as a primary ready-for-development site in the search. The locations were evaluated for accessibility, strong telecommunications infrastructure, electric power availability and reliability, and other characteristics beneficial to data center development.

“Demand for data centers is growing as increased use of electronic commerce and information technologies requires more data storage space,” said John Bradley, senior vice president for TVA Economic Development. “There are exceptional opportunities for regional growth potential in this industry. This site has the resources, infrastructure, and other qualities needed to support strong data center development.”

The 12 sites named are considered ready for development and meet necessary requirements and criteria to support a major data center project. TVA is partnering with local power distributors such as Jackson Energy Authority, regional, state and community economic development leaders to begin marketing these sites as part of its economic development region’s data center project recruitment initiative.

“Jackson’s designation as a Primary Data Center Site by TVA is a direct result of JEA’s investment in this community,” said Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Kyle Spurgeon. “Without JEA’s fiber system and the connectivity to AT&T, we would have very little success in marketing Jackson to companies looking for new data center locations.”

Other prospective sites identified in the TVA survey are located in: Athens, Tenn.; Duffield, Va.; Fayetteville, Tenn.; Guntersville, Ala.; Hartselle, Ala.; Lenoir City, Tenn.; Maryville, Tenn.; Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Olive Branch, Miss.; and Tullahoma, Tenn.

“Data centers provide highly-skilled, good-paying job opportunities,” Bradley said. “TVA’s goal is to help make the region more competitive in attracting and retaining these types of industries and the economic benefits associated with them.”

About the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce:

The Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to growing the economy and quality of life for everyone in Madison County and the region. For more information on the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce, visit www.jacksontn.com. Founded in 1905 – seven years prior to the United States Chamber of Commerce, The Chamber consists of a diverse and talented staff, an executive committee, dedicated volunteers, and more than 1,350 business members.

About Tennessee Valley Authority:

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), a corporation owned by the U.S. government, provides electricity to large industries and 155 power distributors that serve approximately 9 million consumers in seven southeastern states. Economic development is a major part of TVA’s core mission. TVA’s Economic Development services are focused on attracting targeted new industries, retaining and growing existing businesses and helping communities be better prepared for economic growth. More information is available at TVAed.com.

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