

February 2011



Newsletter

Groundbreaking at Perquimans Marine Park



Local and regional officials gathered on January 27th to celebrate the official announcement of the Perquimans Marine Park on the Perquimans River near Hertford, NC. NC Secretary of Commerce, Keith Crisco (*pictured center*) was on hand to speak to the group of 75 people and expressed the value of the marine park to the state's economy.



Gamesa spokesperson, Michael Peck, talked of upcoming plans to work with Northrup Grumman to build wind towers.

Vann Rogerson, President/CEO of NC's Northeast addressed the marine industry in the region.



Highlights:

*NC's Northeast State of the Region Event
February 25, 2011 at the
Bob Martin Ag Center in
Williamston*

- > *Renewable energy projects*
- > *Business expansions highlighted*

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Iberdrola Renewables Takes Steps to Locate in NC's Northeast

Iberdrola Renewables announced plans to establish a wind farm in an area of agricultural land that covers parts of Perquimans and Pasquotank Counties. Iberdrola is considering development of a 300-megawatt wind energy project. Iberdrola filed an application with the NC Utilities Commission, and if the project progresses, construction could begin as early as late 2011. "As the state moves toward meeting its renewable energy goals, NC's Northeast will continue to come to the forefront as a leader in renewable energy assets," stated Vann Rogerson, President/CEO of NC's Northeast Commission.

Enviva LP Announces Plans to Build Biomass Processing Plant in Ahoskie

Enviva plans to hire 53 people at its new plant under construction in Ahoskie, NC. The facility will process biomass wood into pellets, which can be transported and burned efficiently. They plan to begin operations in August 2011 and be fully operational by the second quarter of 2012. In addition to the 53 positions, the operation will provide jobs in the timber and transportation industries, bringing an economic boost to the entire area. Visit their website at www.envivabiomass.com for more information.



510nano Makes Progress with Northampton Solar Farm

Solar energy company, 510nano, recently signed a 15-year agreement with Dominion Power to provide solar energy from a 1.4-megawatt solar farm to be constructed near Gaston, NC. The photovoltaic solar farm will produce enough power to supply electrical energy to 160 households per year.

Join us for
**NC's
 Northeast
 State of the
 Region event
 on Friday,
 February
 25, 2011 in
 Williamston.**

Expansions and New Locations Announced Last Year

- **Reser's Fine Foods** - Nationwide food processor announced an expansion of their operations in Roanoke Rapids. **\$62,500,000 investment** and **500 jobs**.
- **HQ Kites and Designs USA, Inc.** - A new facility opened in Currituck County to expand the company's ability to provide kites and kite supplies to the Outer Banks. **\$150,000 investment** and **5 jobs**.
- **NgateGen** - Agricultural researcher relocated business to Elizabeth City. **\$100,000 investment** and **3 jobs**.
- **Domtar** - Paper mill converted equipment to make fluff from wood products. Retaining **325 jobs**. **\$69,000,000 investment**.
- **Communications Systems, Inc.** - Media and real estate company opened an office in Elizabeth City. **\$250,000 investment** and **4 jobs**.
- **Triple S Internet Café, LLC** - Internet café company located to Elizabeth City bringing **\$200,000 investment** and **10 jobs**.
- **Very Solutions, Inc.** - Tow truck bed fabricator located to Elizabeth City. **\$1,000,000 investment** and **30 jobs**.
- **ern Ag Carriers, Inc.** - Trucking company locating a terminal in Edenton to service food processing companies. **\$1,000,000 investment** and **34 jobs**.



NC's Northeast is one of the seven regional economic development partnerships across North Carolina.

Visit www.visitncne.com to plan your family vacation to NC's Northeast!



NC's Northeast Commission Board Members

Front Row: Art Keeney, Vice Chair; Eddie Lynch, Chair; Steve Howell, Treasurer; Buck Suiter, Phil Hux

Second Row: Bob Spivey, Tracey Johnson, Bo Lewis, Gene Rogers, Drewery Beale, Ernest Burden, Larry Johnson, Mack Nixon, Secretary, Fred Yates



Group Tours

Hannah Jones represented Northeast Tourism (NET) at the recent American Bus Association (ABA) meeting in Philadelphia, PA. This was an opportunity to present NC's Northeast Region to bus tour operators and others who schedule groups for vacation and educational tours. Nancy Nicholls, Tanya Young, and Sarah Katherine Adams participated in the NC Motorcoach Annual Meeting and Marketplace in Wilmington and discussed regional tour itineraries. The printed materials used for tourism trade shows are made possible by a grant from the NC Rural Center. More information about group tour ideas can be found online at www.visitncne.com.

Camden Green Park

Progress is being made at the Camden Green Park along US Highway 17 in Camden County near the Virginia border as water, sewer, and electricity are being placed in the park. The park will attract companies involved in the green industry and provide easy access to various transportation options.



A.R. Chesson Construction Company Presents Green Building Seminar

Al Chesson of A.R. Chesson Construction Co., Inc. speaks to area economic developers and the Committee of 1000 at the Green Building Seminar

The NC's Northeast Committee of 1000 recently sponsored a seminar on green building technology at the NC Telecenter in Williamston. Northeast Economic Developers and other interested community members attended the event. A.R. Chesson Construction worked with Baker Renewables to make the presentation in which they took case studies of actual buildings within the region and talked about ways to add green technology and energy savings to the buildings. The NC's Northeast Committee of 1000 meets quarterly to discuss economic development and capacity building efforts within the 16-county region of NC's Northeast.

New Board Members



Albert Vann, retired Maintenance Superintendent, Georgia Pacific



Judge J.C. Cole, NC Superior Court



Jean Woolard, NC School Board, Ex-Officio Member of NC's Northeast Commission Board

North Carolina's Northeast Commission is the regional economic development organization for the northeast corner of North Carolina. Situated just south of the metropolis of Hampton Roads, Virginia, the Northeast Region of North Carolina is the halfway point between Jacksonville, FL and Boston. Call us or visit our website to learn more.



Discover the Difference

The 2009-2010 Annual Report for NC's Northeast Commission is available online at www.ncnortheast.com/resources/publications

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