



PRESS RELEASE

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GE ENERGY TO EXPAND & DIVERSIFY GREENVILLE FACILITY

(GREENVILLE COUNTY, SC) The Greenville Area Development Corporation announced today that GE Energy will invest an additional \$120 million and create up to 350 new jobs at the Garlington Road facility in Greenville. The need for the additional employees is being driven by the creation of a new Technology team and the addition of a new business operation.

Greenville has been selected as the headquarters for the new Global Gas Turbine Technology team. As an engineering “Center of Excellence”, the Global Gas Turbine Technology team will provide design-engineering support in developing new growth platforms in power generation and services. To support this activity, Technology will add 100 engineers this year. “In our Energy Products business we will see more new product launches this year than any other year in our history,” said Vic Abate, GE Energy Vice President for Power Generation Technology. “These new products will include hundreds of power generation equipment services and several new gas and steam turbine products. Creating this new team in Greenville is a key element of our continued investment in the future of power generation.”

GE Transportation, one of GE’s 11 major business units, will also impact Greenville’s workforce. Their Aircraft Engines division announced that it will begin a new manufacturing operation within the Greenville Gas Turbines facility where it will produce turbine airfoil blades for the aircraft industry. The new Greenville site, together with an existing airfoil operation in Madisonville, KY, will help GE Transportation meet a significant increase in customer demand for airfoil blades. Initially, the operation will employ 30 to 40 employees. The workforce will include engineers, managers and production employees and will begin operation in the fourth quarter of this year.

“We’ve said from day one that keeping existing jobs and creating new jobs here in South Carolina is this administration’s number one priority,” Gov. Sanford said. “This is a significant step in the right direction on that front and it’s a step that’s going to have a tremendously positive impact on hundreds of lives here in the Upstate. We’re going to continue our push for pro-job reforms in Columbia - specifically lowering our income tax rate - that will make it easier for our state to be competitive in creating jobs, raising income levels and spurring economic growth throughout South Carolina.”

“Often you don’t hear manufacturing and “Knowledge Economy” in the same breath. Yet who could be a better example of a “Knowledge” company than GE, having invested last year more than \$4 billion in technology and having launched dozens of leading-edge products,” said Phyllis Henderson, Chairwoman of County Council, “we will continue to seek out and support innovative, advanced manufacturers like GE to ensure high-wage jobs for our residents and long-term prosperity for our area.”

“Securing another significant GE venture in this globally competitive marketplace proves that County Council is positioned well with its current economic development recruitment structure,” said Scott Case, Vice Chair of County Council.

“GE investors’ most frequent question last year was ‘How do we grow in an uncertain world?’” said Brent Clinkscale, Chairman of the Board for the GADC, “As Greenville asks itself this same question, surely much of the answer is reflected in securing this new, high-tech GE business—diversification.”