

Published March 25, 2008 04:45 am - National Grid is helping Essex County expand the Moriah Business Park.

Moriah Business Park set to boom

By **LOHR McKINSTRY**
Staff Writer

MINEVILLE -- Money from National Grid will enable Essex County to beef up its Moriah Business Park to prepare for new tenants.

One of the park's industries, Pre-Tech Plastics, will expand its quarters and increase its 35-person workforce, while the Moriah Health Center will open as soon as problems with its new building in the park are solved.

Waiting in the wings is a New Jersey manufacturer of precision aeronautical parts that will take some of the space vacated by General Composites, which moved all its operations to Willsboro.

BIG DONATION

The Business Park should be booming soon, Essex County Industrial Development Agency Co-Director Carol Calabrese said.

"This is Phase 2 for a park that was constructed 10 years ago. There is a brand-new Moriah Health Center building. The money from National Grid goes toward that, as well as to four 'shovel-ready' sites that are ready for development. It will help us offset the cost."



Representatives of the Essex County Industrial Development Agency and National Grid look around Monday in the new Moriah Health Center. From left are IDA Co-Directors Carol Calabrese and Jody Olcott, National Grid Corporate Communications Manager Patrick Stella and National Grid Vice President John Murphy.
Staff Photo/Lohr McKinstry /

National Grid representatives came to Mineville Monday to present \$110,000 in grants to the IDA.

The grants will be used to install underground cables for three-phase power, water and sewer lines, build a new access road and go online with a virtual tour of the park on Plank Road in Mineville.

SET TO GROW

IDA Co-Director Jody Olcott said the 32-acre Moriah Business Park will soon be ready for expansion.

"We'll continue with construction in the spring," Olcott said. "Anybody interested in locating in this park can come in and put a shovel in the ground in 30 days."

National Grid Media Relations Contractor Patrick Stella said \$30,000 of the grants will go for the virtual tour of the Business Park.

"It will show people what's available. They don't actually have to come out. We want businesses to grow. It helps the community to grow."

The virtual tour allows a 360-degree walk-around in the park, Calabrese said.

"The whole objective now is to promote this park. The tour helps place us on the maps. It gives you the idea of what the buildings will look like in shovel-ready sites."

The improvements to the Business Park will open opportunities, she said.

"We can promote this site and Essex County. It will attract new business and industry and create jobs."

Pre-Tech moved into the Business Park in June 1998 with eight jobs, gradually increasing to its current 35. The business will be expanding and adding an undetermined number of new jobs soon, IDA officials said.

A New Jersey manufacturer is also looking at a site in the park, but no additional information will be released until a contract is signed, Olcott said.

The Health Center in the park is completed and will open once problems with water seepage into the basement are corrected. Construction contractors on the building are returning to make repairs.

Moriah Town Supervisor Thomas Scozzafava said they've come a long way from the empty field on which the park was built.

"Now there are jobs here, good jobs. These grants will help us in our mission not just to retain jobs but to bring new jobs into the Town of Moriah."

lmckinstry@pressrepublican.com