

**For Immediate Release**  
July 9, 2003

**Contact:** John Sewell  
601-359-2916

## **Governor Musgrove: 2,000 New Jobs at Howard Industries Reflects Mississippi's Growth in Recession**

(Ellisville, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove said today that the 2,000 new jobs being created at Howard Industries is further evidence of the state's growth during a national recession.

“Last year, I signed a bill sealing our commitment to the expansion of Howard Industries,” Musgrove said. “At the same time, I sealed our commitment to the people of Mississippi, by creating more jobs and more opportunities. We worked across city lines, county lines and party lines to make this happen.”

Musgrove was in Ellisville for the groundbreaking ceremony for a two-phase expansion of Howard Industries that will create 2,000 jobs. The first phase is a 200,000 square foot facility that will employ over 700 people and manufacture large substation transformers. The second phase will be a computer manufacturing operation.

“With a ten-year forecast of 10,000 jobs, the Howard Industries announcement today is a major impact, not only for Jones County but for the State of Mississippi. This is a great day for our state,” said Musgrove. “We're keeping business, jobs and opportunity growing across Mississippi.”

Under Musgrove's leadership, more than 53,000 new jobs have been created at over 2,200 new and expanded facilities. Total capital investment in those facilities exceeds \$14 billion.

###