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Ashe County Department of Economic Development

A department within local government, Ashe County Economic Development is responsible for the recruitment, expansion/retention and entrepreneurial policies of the Board of Commissioners and County Manager.

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Business North Carolina

We do what nobody else does - cover one very special place, this state, and its economy, which is as diverse as the people who call it home. We produce quality, in-depth journalism, digging behind the news, delivering what we uncover in a manner that, though at times provocative, is always fair, accurate and thorough. Our job at *Business North Carolina* is to reflect reality and, in doing so, both enlighten and entertain our readers.

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Duke Energy Carolinas

Duke Energy Carolinas has a long history of supporting economic development in the State of North Carolina. Our first generating plants and transmission and distribution grid were built over a hundred years ago to fuel industrial development in the Carolinas. More recently, Duke Energy Carolinas has initiated various programs to stimulate new and existing industrial development in our service area, including our Economic Development and Economic Redevelopment Riders that offer credits for customers locating new load on the Duke Energy Carolinas system.

Our Economic Development and Business Development team has played a significant role in locating many major industries within the Carolinas service territory. Our team is highly qualified in providing hands-on, expert services tailored to meet the needs of our clients and their unique business requirements. Services are performed timely, accurately, confidentially and always *free-of-charge*. Duke Energy Carolinas continues to be recognized by *Site Selection* magazine as having one of the "Top 10 Best" utility economic development programs across the U.S.

For more information regarding Duke Energy Economic Development, please visit us at:
<http://www.ConsiderTheCarolina.com>.

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ECS Carolinas, LLP

ECS is a geotechnical, environmental, construction materials, and facilities engineering firm headquartered in Chantilly, Virginia. ECS' subsidiaries operate over 42 locations in the Midwest, Southeast, and Eastern states and employ nearly 1,000 people, including registered professional engineers and geologists, environmental scientists, certified technicians, field engineers, and support staff.

Recently ranked as the nation's 101st largest engineering firm by Engineering News Record (ENR, April 2009), ECS has earned a reputation for being responsive and having the ability to solve problems on major projects. Additionally, ECS was the only geotechnical firm ranked among the Top 100 Pure Design Firms by ENR.

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ElectriCities of North Carolina

ElectriCities is a membership organization including public power communities in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. ElectriCities also provides management services to the state's two municipal power agencies - North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1 and North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency.

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EnergyUnited

EnergyUnited serves more than 120,000 electricity customers in 19 North Carolina counties, stretching from Virginia to northern Mecklenburg County and encompassing the fast-growing I-40, I-77, and I-85 corridors. Its service territory includes suburbs surrounding three of North Carolina's largest cities – Charlotte, Winston-Salem, and Greensboro. EnergyUnited makes customer satisfaction its highest priority, and its electric customers enjoy one of the highest reliability rates in the industry. EnergyUnited also provides propane to more than 23,000 customers in 74 North and South Carolina counties and offers other specialized residential and commercial products and services.

At EnergyUnited, we know expanding a business is no easy task, so having a partner willing to go the extra mile with you is important. With some of the most competitive rate in the industry and elite customer satisfaction ratings, EnergyUnited is well equipped to be that partner. We're big enough to provide you with the best service, but small enough to intimately work with you to help your business flourish. At EnergyUnited, you're more than an account number, you're a business partner. Learn why at EnergyUnited.com.

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Envirotrol

Envirotrol Incorporated is one of the largest mechanical & electrical service providers in the Southeast offering total facility solutions. Headquartered in Greensboro, North Carolina with offices in Raleigh, North Carolina and Charleston, South Carolina, we support some of the largest international corporations and mission critical facilities in the southeast through our divisions of Facility Automation, as open systems integrator's; HVAC mechanical service and repair; NEBB Certified Test and Balance; and Operations Support.

At Envirotrol, our professional team is dedicated to one goal: providing complete facility solutions that make your building perform at optimal operational efficiency, comfort and safety.

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Hinkle Contracting Co., LLC

Hinkle Contracting Company is respected leader in the railroad construction industry, experiencing responsive growth by presenting quality workmanship in the products it represents. Our personnel insure safe, quality, value added service with customer satisfaction. Hinkle's Rail Division has the resources to meet your railroad construction and maintenance requirements. We offer pre-job inspections, consultations with competitive pricing. Our railroad division management staff collectively realizes over 140 years of railroad construction experience.

Hinkle contracting has become one of the Southeast's most respected rail construction companies specializing in Class 1 to private industry projects.

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John S. Clark Company

John S. Clark Company, LLC is a 50+ year old construction firm founded and based in Mount Airy, NC. Additional offices are in Raleigh, Wilmington and Winston-Salem, NC. Methods of service delivery include Construction Management at Risk, Design/Build and General Construction in a broad range of projects types.

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Monroe Economic Development

The City of Monroe began its Economic Development program in 1996. The EDC's mission has been to recruit and retain industry within the corporate limits of Monroe in order to strengthen the local economy and provide ample employment opportunities for our citizens.

With this charge, the EDC has undertaken many programs and events to increase our services to the local industry, both new and existing. Although the point of first contact, it takes all the resources of a community to keep a local economy successful. All the allies we have make it possible to get the answers or resolve issues for prospective or existing companies in making small and large decisions that affect their competitiveness in a global market.

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Moss & Associates

Moss & Associates is a privately held construction company that is ranked among the nation's top 100 building contractors with annual revenues topping \$649 million. Through its regional office in Greenville, South Carolina and headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, our firm provides design-build, general construction, construction management and preconstruction consulting services throughout the United States, Bahamas and Caribbean.

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North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives

North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives provides trade association services to the state's 26 electric cooperatives. North Carolina's electric cooperatives serve nearly 30 percent of the state's population, some 2.5 million people, with more than 900,000 accounts. Their power distribution territory covers approximately 23,800 square miles, nearly half the state's land area, in 93 of the state's 100 counties.

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North Carolina State Ports Authority

North Carolina's Ports in Wilmington and Morehead City, plus inland terminals in Charlotte and the Piedmont Triad in Greensboro, link the State's consumers, businesses and industry to world markets, and serve as magnets to attract new business and industry. Port activities contribute statewide to 85,000 jobs and \$299 million each year in state and local tax revenues.

Top trading partners are China, India, Brazil, So. Korea, Belgium, Taiwan, Mexico, Colombia, Great Britain and Venezuela.

Primary exports are phosphate, forest products, wood pulp, general merchandise, food products, wood chips and military.

Top imports are sulfur products, chemicals, grains, rubber, scrap metal, cement, metal products, machinery parts, ore, mica and schist.

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North Carolina's Southeast

North Carolina's Southeast markets the dynamic southeast region for economic development, comprised of eleven counties, the Port of Wilmington and Fort Bragg. Our mission: Provide strong economic development leadership in southeastern North Carolina through innovative marketing and collaborative regional initiatives that will create new jobs, generate capital investment, and secure new business locations.

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Parker Poe

Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP has 230 lawyers in six offices located in major markets across North Carolina and South Carolina. The Firm provides legal counsel to large commercial and public organizations on litigation, corporate and regulatory matters. It has been recognized in recent years as one of the fastest growing law firms in the United States and as an award-winning leader in the use of technology to provide better and more efficient service to domestic and international clients.

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Powerworks

The PowerWorks Electric team brings its expertise to clients in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia, with a strong emphasis on quality and value added service for each project. The PowerWorks Team has specialized experience with projects in the areas of Healthcare, Technology, Commercial/Retail, Hospitality, Industrial plants and Renewable Energy. We approach every job with responsiveness, integrity and attention to detail which has earned us an industry wide reputation for quality.

Our Solar/Renewable Energy division provides a full range of solutions for the solar renewable energy industry starting with the designing of the project, securing the financing, construction and installation, as well as owning the project, operating and maintaining the project after completion. Our focus is on providing outstanding customer service while helping our customers to create a sustainable profit model leveraging existing company assets, whether it is an existing roof top or land for a Solar farm. As a certified EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction), PowerWorks has the experience and infrastructure to successfully and efficiently deliver solar projects of any size.

Let PowerWorks Electric bring energy to your next project

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Progress Energy

Progress Energy (NYSE: PGN), headquartered in Raleigh, N.C., is a Fortune 250 diversified energy company with more than 24,500 megawatts of generation capacity and \$9 billion in annual revenues. The company's holdings include two electric utilities serving approximately 2.9 million customers in North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida. Progress Energy also includes non-regulated operations covering competitive generation, energy marketing, natural gas production, fuel extraction and broadband capacity.

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PSNC Energy

PSNC Energy is franchised to serve a 28-county service area in North Carolina and distributes natural gas to approximately 485,000 winter-peak customers in 95 cities and communities ranging from the Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill areas in the north central part of the state; the Concord, Statesville, Gastonia, and Forest City areas in the Piedmont; to the Asheville, Hendersonville, Bryson City, Cherokee and Brevard areas in the western part of the state. More information about PSNC Energy is available through the company's web site at www.psnenergy.com.

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S&ME, Inc.

S&ME is an award-winning engineering and environmental firm employing 1,000 professional and support staff in 25 offices throughout the Southeast. Founded in 1973, S&ME is headquartered in Raleigh, NC and has offices throughout the State. Principal service lines are geotechnical engineering; construction materials engineering and testing; environmental services, occupational health and safety, water resources and solid waste engineering, natural resources and cultural resources.

S&ME ranks 97th in Engineering News-Record (ENR) magazine's 2011 Top 500 Design Firms and is also in the Top 200 Environmental Firms list. Markets include industrial, power, education, federal/military, healthcare, petroleum retailers, ports and terminals, residential, retail/commercial, solid waste and transportation. The employee-owned company emphasizes an unconditional commitment to safety and engineering integrity.

Learn more at www.smeinc.com.

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Samet Corporation

Samet Corporation's internal capabilities support owners at each stage of the real estate process. Samet offers advisory services (project planning, site selection, pre-construction), construction (design & build, construction management, bid to build, build to suit), and owner services (infrastructure build-out, additions & renovations, property management & leasing).

So what makes us different than other general contractors? It begins with our habit of *listening*. At Samet, we regularly communicate with our clients before, during and after each project to ensure they are satisfied with our performance, and to identify ways we can improve. Through this process, our customers have told us what they feel makes us different — and why they prefer us over other companies in our business.

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Shelco

Since 1978 Shelco has provided a full range of construction services including planning, pre-construction, construction management, new construction and renovation. Shelco serves a broad range of clients that include the industrial, educational, office, medical, retail, mission critical, bio-technology as well as other sectors.

With offices in Winston-Salem, Raleigh, and Charlotte, North Carolina; and Greenville and Bluffton South Carolina, Shelco covers a geographical area that encompasses both Carolinas, Virginia and Georgia.

With 14 LEED Accredited Professionals and 42 Green Advantage Certified Employees, Shelco is truly committed to a sustainable future. We have completed 15 LEED Certified buildings in the Carolina's Market, ranging from LEED Certified all the way to LEED Platinum. Our commitment to the environment goes much further than just our many LEED projects and certification. As a company we try to provide input and suggest LEED components throughout the process in order to create not only a healthier planet but a healthier working environment.

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T5 Data Centers

T5 Data Centers is an owner, operator, and developer of mission critical data centers in North America. T5 provides solutions to the needs of the next generation of end-users through the development of cost-effective, purpose-built data centers across the nation. T5's experience in delivering both "Powered Data Center Shells" and fully operational "Wholesale Data Centers" translates into greatly reduced risk to the end-users who put their critical facilities in the care of T5 Data Centers.

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Timmons Group

Timmons Group is a multi-disciplined engineering and technology firm recognized for nearly twenty years as one of Engineering News Record's Top 500 Design Firms. We provide civil engineering, environmental, GIS/geospatial technology, landscape architecture and surveying services to a diverse client base. Timmons has North Carolina offices in Greensboro, Raleigh and Charlotte as well as five offices in Virginia. The firm has over 250 professionals with expertise in a number of site development specializations. The firm is unique in that it has a department and staff solely dedicated to economic development projects. We have managed a number of site certification and development projects both in North Carolina and Virginia.

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Triad Design Group

Triad Design Group is a North Carolina professional corporation providing architectural, structural engineering, civil engineering, land planning and interior design services with expertise in the design of office, retail, and medical buildings; industrial, warehouse, and distribution facilities; retirement communities; and airport terminals and hangars.

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Wilkes Economic Development Corporation

The mission of the Wilkes Economic Development Corporation is to facilitate the creation of new jobs and capital investment in Wilkes County, North Carolina through the recruitment of new businesses and the retention and expansion of existing businesses. The Wilkes EDC is a 501c3 public-private partnership located in North Wilkesboro, NC.

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Withers & Ravenel

Founded in 1983, Withers & Ravenel, Inc. provides consulting services in planning, civil and environmental engineering and surveying. Withers & Ravenel is located in Cary with branch offices in Wilmington and Greensboro, North Carolina. Our 100-person staff includes professional engineers, surveyors, GIS specialists, landscape architects, planners, CADD Technicians, IT developers, and construction administrators. In addition, Withers & Ravenel is a member of the US Green Building Council and has 18 LEED Accredited Professions on staff who help our clients create cost effective and environmentally sound designs.

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Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice PLLC

Our economic development team includes lawyers, financial and tax experts and seasoned political and public affairs strategists and tacticians. Led by the state's only four-term governor, we help companies and consultants navigate the maze of issues involved in site selection, and we work in concert with state, county and local economic developers to bring the project in. The success of your economic development program is our mutual objective.

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