



*Darlington County*  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

# Quarterly Update

## IN THE NEWS

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### **Darlington County economy remains steady**

*Florence Morning News, March 22, 2017*

"DARLINGTON -- While we did not have any announcements in Darlington County in 2016, we worked on a significant number of projects representing the opportunity for a substantial amount of capital investment and numerous jobs.

Some of these projects remain active, and we anticipate that two of them will make final decisions during the first half of 2017.

The top sector generating projects for Darlington County was the food processing sector, which accounted for 50 percent of the projects that considered the county in 2016. The balance of projects was split fairly equally among the textile, plastics, chemicals and metal industries."

[Read more here](#)



Jeff McKay, Executive Director of NESA

**North Eastern Strategic Alliance looks for great economic development**

## In This Issue

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## PROGRESS MEMBERS

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### **Industry Appreciation** **Event:**

May 11, 2017 5-7:00 pm at  
South of Pearl in Darlington  
RSVP by May 4 to  
[mperry@dcedp.com](mailto:mperry@dcedp.com)

## Share your news

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Do you or your company have any Darlington County news to share?

If so, email us [here](#) and we'll include it in our next newsletter and on our website.

## Join Our Mailing List

## Contact Us

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Darlington County Economic  
Development Partnership  
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Florence Morning News, March 22, 2017

"FLORENCE – 2016 was yet another year of growth for the North Eastern Strategic Alliance (NESA) region.

The region announced capital investments of \$188.7 million and the creation of nearly 1,500 new jobs. Most of the announcements in 2016 were expansions of existing industries, which continues to show that companies that locate in the NESA region have great success.

Also of note, the region's unemployment rate continues to show significant decline. As of December 2016, the region's unemployment rate was at 5.4 percent. That is down almost 10 percent from January 2011 (15.1 percent). Although NESA doesn't take credit for the sharp decline, we can say that continuing to strengthen our regional collaboration has paid huge dividends."

[Read more here](#)

## IMPACTS ON DARLINGTON COUNTY



### **McMaster speaks at Dillon Inland Port groundbreaking** DILLON COUNTY, SC (WBTW) March 10, 2017

"DILLON, SC (WBTW) - Officials broke ground on the new Dillon Inland port Friday afternoon with special guest Governor Henry McMaster. Port leaders, elected officials and business partners met with the governor to celebrate the Inland Port Dillon at a groundbreaking event on the site of the new facility.

Inland Port Dillon will serve port customers along the I-95 corridor and markets in the Carolinas. The facility will utilize existing rail service with CSX to move port cargo overnight to and from the Port of Charleston, the press release said."

[Read more here](#)



### **SCE&G Expands Energy Efficiency Program for Small Businesses**

CAYCE, SC April 6, 2017

"SCE&G has expanded a program aimed at helping small businesses better manage their energy costs. Eligibility caps for the company's Small Business Energy Solutions program have been expanded to increase program participation and help more small businesses realize energy savings.

Launched in late 2014, the turnkey program provides small businesses with up to 80 percent the cost of energy upgrades of lighting or

refrigeration. The program is now available to SCE&G small businesses and small nonprofit customers with an annual energy use of 350,000 kWh or less, up from the prior cap of 250,000 kWh. Financial incentives covering 80 percent of most lighting and refrigeration retrofit projects have also been raised from a cap of \$4,000 to \$6,000.

"SCE&G is committed to helping small businesses manage their energy use effectively," said Annika Goodson, an energy efficiency program manager with SCE&G. "The changes we've made to our Small Business Energy Solutions program allow more small businesses to participate and provide cost-effective measures that can add up to big savings."

[Read more here](#)



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