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Moore County, NC

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Sewer Line Project Will Benefit Pinebluff Manufacturer and Town

Moore County is applying for two grants for public sewer service to enable a local manufacturer to expand and create new jobs. ATEX Technologies, Inc., located on U.S. Highway 1 South in Pinebluff, has exceeded the capacity of the current on-site industrial septic system serving the facility, affecting the company's ability to sustain a part of its operations.

Founded in 2001, ATEX designs and manufactures human implantable medical device components using highly sophisticated and specialized textile technology. Products include various surgical fabrics and components such as artificial arteries and heart valves. The company has grown to 71 employees and has earned the reputation of being an innovator in the medical textiles industry.

The public sewer improvements needed to accommodate ATEX's expansion include installing a new pump station and over 10,300 linear feet of sewer line through Pinebluff. When the sewer line is in place, the company expects to add 30 employees over the next 3 years. In contrast, without the sewer service, ATEX potentially would have to relocate or cease those operations dependent on wastewater processing, which would result in the loss of 29 full-time people.

The project will not only enable ATEX to remain and continue to grow in Pinebluff, but it will also directly benefit a wide area of Pinebluff where many residents will be able to tap into the new sewer line.

To fund the project, the County has applied for a grant through the Community Development Block Grant program administered by the N.C. Department of Commerce, and an infrastructure grant from the N.C. Rural Center. The grants total \$885,000 with a \$15,000 local match that will be provided by ATEX.

"We are pleased that this type of funding is available to enable us to expand our operations in Moore County, and at the same time, help the Town of Pinebluff", said Brian McMurray, CEO of ATEX. "We appreciate the County's efforts in applying for the grants."

"ATEX is a technology-based company providing good jobs for our citizens, a company we would hate to lose because of inadequate infrastructure", said Ray Ogden, Executive Director of Moore County Partners in Progress, the economic development organization serving the County. "We greatly appreciate the support of the N.C. Department of Commerce and the N.C. Rural Center in helping this business expand and add jobs to our area. The new sewer line through Pinebluff will open that area up for potential new growth that could benefit the entire County."

For more information about ATEX Technologies, Inc., visit www.atextechnologies.com. Partners in Progress is the economic development organization that serves all of Moore County to improve the quality of life for our citizens through new business recruitment and existing business expansion. For more information, visit www.moorebusiness.org.

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