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**Communities Gain Valuable Economic Tool from Entergy Mississippi Partnership**  
*Utility, regional groups produce Workforce Analysis report*

Jackson, Miss.— Communities have a new tool to attract business and industry to Mississippi—a workforce analysis report produced by Entergy Mississippi, Inc. and four economic development groups.

“The status of our workforce is the main topic we’re asked about whenever a prospect visits,” said John Turner, director of economic development for Entergy Mississippi, Inc. “They want to know if Mississippi has the people with the skills to make their projects viable.

“This report is useful both for economic developers marketing their territories and the businesses who come here to look.”

The report breaks down workforce data into two categories – labor supply and labor demand. It presents a snapshot of regional labor markets from the standpoint of workers and employers, and provides details on employment figures, workforce skills and training, and future workforce needs identified by businesses operating in the state.

The report was produced in partnership with the Greater Jackson Alliance, M3 Alliance in northwest Mississippi, the Mississippi Delta Developers Association and Southwest Mississippi Partnership.

The report highlights the unique workforce characteristics of each region. For example:

- the greater Jackson area offers a large variety of industrial skills based on high levels of employment in automotive and manufacturing sectors,
- the workforce in southwest Mississippi has extensive training and experience in wood products processing,

- the four counties represented in the M3 Alliance – Tunica, Tate, Panola and DeSoto – offer a broad spectrum of workforce skills based on their proximity to the Memphis metro area., and
- the Delta’s work force data shows the region’s high potential for agribusiness-related industry.

“Communities can use the information in this report to target their marketing efforts to specific prospects or projects,” Turner said. “They can also better understand their workforce needs and develop strategies to strengthen their competitive standing.”

The report was compiled by Younger Associates of Jackson, Tenn. It is available in a Web-based format that can be accessed by workforce providers, such as economic development groups and community colleges, as well as business prospects interested in locating in Mississippi. It will be periodically updated to ensure that it contains accurate, current workforce data for each region.

“This report represents a true team effort involving Entergy Mississippi and regional economic development groups,” Turner said. “By sharing our resources and expertise, we can boost Mississippi’s competitive edge by promoting the many assets and strengths our communities have to offer.

“It’s an effort that requires continuous focus and learning, and our goal is to keep moving forward to build a better future for Mississippi.”

Entergy Mississippi, Inc. provides electricity to more than 433,000 customers in 45 counties. It is a subsidiary of Entergy Corporation. Entergy Corporation is an integrated energy company engaged primarily in electric power production and retail distribution operations. Entergy owns and operates power plants with approximately 30,000 megawatts of electric generating

capacity, and it is the second-largest nuclear generator in the United States. Entergy delivers electricity to 2.6 million utility customers in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

*Entergy Mississippi's online address is [entergy-mississippi.com](http://entergy-mississippi.com).*