

*Remarks for the  
Howard Industries Groundbreaking  
July 9, 2003*

■ Recognize the Howards'

- Lt. Gov. Amy Tuck
- Rep. Bobby Shows and Joe Ellzey
- Mayor Susan Vincent, Laurel
- Mayor of Ellisville
- EDA of Jones County
- Jones County Board of Supervisors

■ Today is a great day for Mississippi

- We're breaking ground to create 2,000  
new jobs

- On July 30, 2002, I signed a bill sealing our commitment to Howard Industries' expansion in Mississippi
  - And sealing our commitment to Mississippi families, by creating more jobs and opportunity
  
- In the Tech Park South, expansion will break ground to create 2,000 jobs
  - 1<sup>st</sup> phase is a 200,000 square foot facility that will employ over 700 people.
  - Manufacture large substation transformers
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> phase will be computer plant

- We're expanding homegrown businesses right here in Mississippi.
  - That's good for Howard Industries
  
- It's even better for Mississippi and the hard-working people who live here
  
- Over the past three years, in the face of a national recession,
  - 9,000,000 jobs lost
  - unemployment at a 9 year high
  
- Mississippi is creating over 53,000 new jobs at over 2,200 new and expanded facilities with a total business investment of over \$14 billion.

- This is not only good for Mississippian's today who will go to a new job
  - It is also good for our children
  - The best thing a child can see every morning on the way to school, is their parents on their way to a good job
  
- The eyes of the nation are on the progress of Mississippi
  - We've got the most aggressive job creation plan in the nation / Advantage Mississippi
  - We're strengthening our infrastructure to handle not just train tracks, but technology

- We're investing in education / making it a priority when others are cutting back
  - Most important, we've got the greatest people / ready to work
- 
- This is a great day for our State
    - We're keeping business, jobs and opportunity growing across Mississippi.