

Mississippi Development Authority
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CITY OF GREENWOOD AWARDED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

JACKSON, Miss., January 8 – The City of Greenwood has been awarded a \$457,838 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to upgrade their water system and electrical system for Viking Range Corporation announced J.C. Burns, executive director, Mississippi Development Authority today.

The City of Greenwood submitted the CDBG Economic Development Improvements application on behalf of Viking Range Corporation.

Viking Range was founded by Fred E. Carl, Jr. The company was incorporated in 1984. Viking Range was the pioneer in designing and producing commercial grade ranges for home use. After receiving the American Gas Association's certification and approval in late 1986, production of America's first restaurant type range for home use began in January 1987 in Southern California. Manufacturing moved to Tennessee and eventually to Greenwood, Mississippi.

"I am pleased the State of Mississippi can be a partner with the City of Moorhead and this project," said J.C. Burns, executive director, Mississippi Development Authority.

Viking has experienced several expansions since moving to Greenwood. Currently they are adding a refrigerator line to their product offering which has created the need for a second manufacturing facility at the company's Viking Road site. Because of time constraints Viking has already begun construction of this facility; they are paying for the \$30,000,000 building and have hired 50 of the 100 employees needed to start-up. With the improvements to the water and electrical systems they will be able to install \$2,000,000 in equipment and machinery and hire the other 50 employees needed to begin manufacturing their new products.

The CDBG program provides funding to localities with populations of 50,000 or less for economic development, public facilities and public projects.

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