Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MDA HOSTS INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Workshop to focus for manufacturers in the following industries: agriculture, forestry, aluminum, metal casting, steel, chemicals, petroleum, glass and mining

JACKSON, Miss., - The Energy Division of the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) in partnership with the Mississippi Manufacturers Association (MMA), Vocational Education Services and the Department of Energy will host a series of industrial energy efficiency training workshops to assist plant owners, operators, and maintenance personnel in identifying areas which use excessive energy and in identifying costs effective upgrades.

"Recent increases in gas and electrical prices have produced significant increases in plant operating expenses. These workshops will explain how dollars saved from the reduction of energy can be reinvested to sustain businesses by increasing profit margins or expanding operations," said Kenneth Calvin, director, Energy Division, MDA.

The first workshop will be held during the MMA's quarterly meeting. Representatives from the MDA – Energy Division and the Department of Energy will conduct a two-hour overview of programs and offering and the benefits of participation. Speakers will explain details of three introductory workshops training sessions to be held in 2001 and three certification courses which will be held in 2002. Offerings will include information and software packages, lectures, financial options, certification programs and industry partners.

The workshops are designed to optimize the training of industry representatives while minimizing time away from the manufacturing operation. Each workshop will feature concurrent sessions on the following topics: motors, steam, compressed air, lighting, process heat, alternative fuels and financing.

(MORE)

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The registration fee to attend is \$50 and applications can be obtained by contacting the:

Energy Division – Industrial Energy Efficiency Training Telephone 601.359. Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

The workshops will be held:

<u>November 5, 2001</u> Whispering Woods Hotel and Conference Center 11200 E. Goodman Road Olive Branch, MS

<u>November 7, 2001</u> E-Commerce Center Jackson State University (Formerly Allstate) 1230 Raymond Road Jackson, MS

<u>November 9, 2001</u> University of Southern Mississippi 730 East Beach Boulevard Long Beach, MS

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