For Immediate Release April 2, 2003 <u>Contact</u>: John Sewell 601-359-2916

Governor Musgrove: Jobs Headed to Greenville

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today said the location of an ethanol processing facility in Greenville is a demonstration of the type of aggressive business development effort that is bringing attention to the state. E.O.H. Energy LLC, a local Greenville company, chose a site on the outskirts of the city.

"We're here today because a group of people here in Greenville and Washington County wanted to make a difference," Musgrove said. "They created an opportunity to grow a business from the ground up, and provide good, quality jobs for this area."

The \$58 million facility will eventually employ 35 to 40 people. It is the third largest industrial investment in Washington County.

"We are constantly working to create jobs for the people of Mississippi and to position the state as a great place to do business," said Musgrove. "We do that by thinking creatively and acting aggressively when it comes making the most of our state's promise and potential."

Musgrove also cited the Rural Economic Impact Authority, which he called for in his State of the State address in January, as another potential tool for spurring further growth in Washington County. The initiative, which focuses on job skill training at community colleges and support of local economic development efforts, was passed by the Legislature this week.

Mississippi was listed by "Site Selection" magazine last year as one of the top ten states for new and expanded facilities. In September 2001, the state was named one of the top ten states for small business survival. Under Musgrove's leadership and during a national recession, more than 2,000 new and expanded facilities have opened, creating more than 50,000 jobs and a total business investment of over \$14 billion.