

# CROSSROADS REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL facility AUTHORITY

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## PRESS RELEASE

### VIRGINIA TOBACCO COMMISSION AWARDS GRANT FOR PROGRESS PARK

WYTHEVILLE—The Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission has awarded the Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority (CRIFA) a \$350,000 grant to assist in development of water and sewer infrastructure in the rail-served southern portion of Progress Park. Costs for the Phase II southern Progress Park development project total approximately \$5.8 M and include grading of a road and rail corridor to the center of the industrial park, grading of a 25-acre rail-served industrial site pad, initial grading for an inland port, and construction of an industrial access road in addition to construction of the water and sewer infrastructure. These large rail-served sites within the 1210-acre regional industrial park are an important addition to the state and region's inventory of available sites.

"Progress Park is a great project in Southwest Virginia," stated Senator Phillip Puckett, member of the Tobacco Commission. "The Special Projects Committee and the entire Tobacco Commission is pleased to work with the Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority on Phase II of this project to serve the corporate citizens within the Park."

"We are most appreciative of the support provided by the Tobacco Commission," CRIFA Chairman Wythe B. Sharitz said. "This grant will allow us to proceed with construction of 'backbone' water and sewer infrastructure to serve the southern portion of Progress Park. With this backbone in place, future rail-served businesses can easily connect to the utility system within the building construction time frame."

The CRIFA award was part of \$2.5 M in special projects grants awarded by the Tobacco Commission at its July 22 meeting held in Abingdon, Virginia. For additional information on the recent Tobacco Commission awards, see <http://www.vatobaccocommission.org/pressrelease.asp>.

The Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission is a 31-member body created by the 1999 General Assembly. A significant part of its mission is the promotion of economic growth and development in tobacco-dependent communities. The Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority is a regional industrial facilities authority with membership of Bland County, Wythe County, and the Town of Wytheville.

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RELEASE: 8/17/04

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