

## **Harrison County Industrial Park is “Shovel Ready”**

Harrison County is now among twelve other communities in Indiana that has earned the distinction of having a certified “Shovel Ready” business development site. On September 13, 2006, officials from the Indiana Finance Authority and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation completed the review of the business development sites that were submitted in the pilot application round and awarded the certification to the Harrison County Industrial Park in Corydon.

To be Shovel Ready certified, a site must undergo an environmental evaluation. It then can qualify for expedited permitting with state regulatory agencies to accelerate development plans.

"With more and more companies looking for sites where they can have a shovel in the ground as quickly as possible, this program will help give Indiana an advantage when it comes to competing with other states for new investments and new jobs," Michael Maurer, Indiana Secretary of Commerce and IEDC president, said in a news release. "The program will cut permitting time by up to 30 percent."

Shovel Ready sites are certified by the Fast Access Site Team, which comprises representatives from the IEDC, the Indiana Finance Authority, the Indiana Governor's Office, and the state's Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Management, Department of Transportation, State Department of Health, Department of Agriculture and the Department of Homeland Security.

Certified sites are highlighted on the IEDC's Site Section Database, an online resource that allows site-selection consultants and businesses to research available commercial and industrial properties.

Darrell Voelker, Harrison County Economic Development Director submitted the application May 15, 2006 and said the work to complete the application took several days. Support from Chamber of Commerce staff and dozens of community officials from utilities, fire departments, private professional companies and governmental agencies that provided information to the Economic Development Corporation made the certification possible.

“Because this is a new program, the ultimate impact is still uncertain but the data that was collected about the community and the specific industrial park location is a necessary and worthwhile accomplishment,” said Gordon Pendleton, Board Chair of the Economic Development Corporation.

The Harrison County Industrial Park is located at 725 Quarry Road. The Chamber of Commerce of Harrison County owns 42 acres that is “ready” for a building pad. Additional acreage owned by a private developer allows the ED Corporation to promote a total of 67 acres. The designation by the Indiana Finance Authority and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation brings statewide recognition and new partners to promote this outstanding business development location.