

Immediate Release

November 12, 2012

Contact: Doug Parsons (304-269-4993)

Lewis County to Host Natural Gas Industry Representatives

WESTON, W.Va. – The Lewis County Economic Development Authority will spotlight the county's fastest-growing business sector this week by hosting natural gas industry representatives during a two-day event at Stonewall Jackson Resort.

On Monday and Tuesday, natural gas representatives will tour Lewis County's primary industrial development sites and view the region by helicopter. On Monday night, Lewis County officials will host a dinner and offer a presentation that highlights Lewis County's recent economic and industrial growth.

"Lewis County is the hub of the blue-collar side of the Natural Gas Industry," says Doug Parsons, Executive Director of the LCEDA, "We have land available for development, a trained and ready workforce, and resources convenient to the industry. It is within the county's best interests to ask these individuals to join us and really get a hands-on feel of the area."

During the event, Lewis County officials will focus on what the region can offer in terms of workforce readiness and quality, available land, Parsons said.

"Several of the companies are looking to expand, and with the opening of our new industrial park we have a great opportunity to be a part of this growth," Parsons said. "In Lewis County, we're ready to begin our next stage of economic development, and this event is a nice platform to showcase what the county has to offer."

This event comes as Lewis County boasts an unemployment rate of just 5.9 percent for September, one of the lowest unemployment rates in West Virginia.

###