

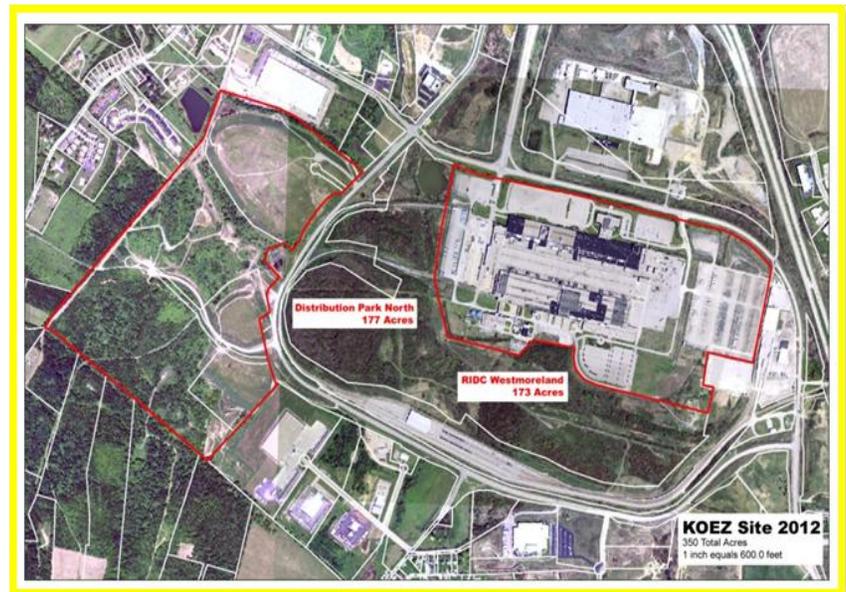
For business editors

A New Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) – New Stanton

Get into Westmoreland County's Zone.

Mount Pleasant, Pa, September 7, 2012 – The Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation's (WCIDC) Board of Directors – Charles W. Anderson, R. Tyler Courtney, and Ted Kopas, along with their partners at the Regional Industrial Development Corporation (RIDC), today announce the county's latest in business attraction as the new Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) designation located near New Stanton, Westmoreland County.

This newly designated KOEZ offers both available land parcels for sale for new construction and existing building space for lease opportunities. The site is comprised of Westmoreland Distribution Park North (177 acres) including 3 prime, pad-ready industrial sites and the



county's 2.8 million SF RIDC Westmoreland facility touting space divisible in 100,000 SF leasable increments (173 acres). "We are extremely excited to be able to market the RIDC Westmoreland facility as a new KOEZ site," said Don Smith, President of the RIDC and owner of the site. "RIDC Westmoreland is a regional asset as a place to attract firms who want to locate and grow in Pittsburgh."



First established in 1999, Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZs) are known as “the number one economic development strategy in the nation,” providing opportunities to develop sites with greatly

reduced state and local taxes. By eliminating certain state and local taxes within specific underdeveloped and underutilized areas, communities within Pennsylvania are experiencing economic growth and investment. “KOZs reflect a true sense of partnership among state and local taxing bodies, school districts, economic development agencies and community-based organizations,” said Jason Rigone, Executive Director of the WCIDC.

Due to the tremendous success of the program, KOZs are still being supported by continuing acts of the state legislature. “The KOZ program gives incentive for out-of-state businesses to relocate to Pennsylvania,” adds April Kopas, Executive Director of the



Redevelopment Authority of the County of Westmoreland (RACW) and the county’s KOZ Site Coordinator. “Local companies locating in the zones must commit to job growth and capital investment.”

The New Stanton KOEZ authorized by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will become effective for qualifying businesses from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2022. “This legislation allows for the expansion of the program once again and will continue to serve as one of our most innovative and successful economic development tools,” said County Commissioner Charles Anderson, who also serves as chairman of the county’s Industrial Development Corporation. “It’s a simple concept – if you locate in a zone as a business, you may qualify for business tax relief.” Businesses locating in the new KOEZ in New Stanton will be eligible to apply for benefits given they meet the state’s qualifications after January 1, 2013.

For more information about the new KOEZ site located near New Stanton, visit

www.westmorelandcountyidc.org. Select “KOZ Sites” under Site Selection from the homepage.

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