

Rocky Mount TELEGRAM

BY COREY DAVIS - Staff Writer -- December 12, 2017

Kingsboro could see hundreds of new jobs

Almost \$600 million and 800 new jobs could be coming to the Kingsboro Megasite.

The Carolinas Gateway Partnership and the N.C. Department of Commerce will make an economic development announcement at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Edgecombe Community College's Keihin Auditorium. Recently, the Telegram reported that an undisclosed company was nearing finalizing a deal to open a multi-million dollar facility in the Kingsboro Industrial Park.

Edgecombe County Manager Eric Evans said he couldn't share the company name, but the deal would bring 800 jobs and \$580 million in investments to the Twin Counties. The Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners held a special closed session at a meeting in November and approved a memorandum of the agreement.

"That is a non-binding agreement that spells out the incentives the board shows it's willing to offer subject to this company making investments in the county and creating jobs," Evans said.

Evans said the Kingsboro site has received interest from several companies over the years. According to Partnership officials, Kingsboro is strategically located in the heart of the Eastern Seaboard, just off U.S. 64 and 10 minutes east of Interstate 95.

In December 2016, the Golden LEAF Foundation awarded \$7 million in grants to the Partnership for infrastructure improvements to include water, sewer, roads and a groundwater study at the megasite.

John Boyd, principal of the Boyd Co., a leading national corporate site selection company in New Jersey, said Kingsboro long has been viewed by site selection consultants as one of the premier sites for advanced manufacturing in the Southeast because of its highway and rail access.