BUSINESS

Boeing design team to set up in Upstate

Regional office to house BE&K/Turner/BRPH's joint venture

By David Dykes
BUSINESS WRITER
ddykes@greenvillenews.com

A building group's regional office in Greenville will be the headquarters for a joint venture that will design and build Boeing Co.'s new 787 Dreamliner final assembly plant in North Charleston, state officials said Friday.

Department of Commerce officials said a joint venture of the BE&K Building Group and Turner Construction, with design partner BRPH, has been awarded the design-build contract for the plant.

The BE&K Building Group's South Carolina regional office in Greenville will serve as the headquarters for the BE&K/Turner/BRPH design-build team, the officials said.

In 2006, BE&K Building Group, in a design-build partnership with BRPH, delivered two major facilities at the site — a 342,000-square-foot building used for fabrication and assembly of aft fuselage sections for the Boeing 787 aircraft, as well as the adjacent Global Aeronautica production facility that is 50 percent owned by Boeing.

Chicago-based Boeing said last month it would open a second assembly line for its long-delayed 787 jetliner in North Charleston.

"We continue to believe that Boeing's investment in South Carolina will transform our state and today's news is an incredible sign of what is to come," Commerce Secretary Joe Taylor said in a statement Friday. "The selection of a Greenville firm to perform the construction of the new facility will have an immediate impact on our state's economy and this announcement is further indication that this project will have a positive impact on our entire state."

Taylor said estimates are that the construction of Boeing's new facility could create up to 2,000 jobs.

"It is important that we can all work together on large projects such as Boeing because the impact is truly realized throughout the state," said State Rep. Dan Cooper, R-Piedmont, who is chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. "It will mean jobs for people in Charleston County and the Upstate as well."

BE&K officials in Greenville couldn't be reached for comment.

BRPH officials said the BE&K Building Group and BRPH architects and engineers have completed 2 projects together over the past 15 years with a total project value exceeding $1 billion.



Boeing

A joint venture of BE&K Building Group's Greenville office and Turner Construction has been awarded the design-build contract for Boeing's new 787 Dreamliner plant.