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Web Seminar

The Future of Economic Development at \$5.00 a Gallon: What Energy Prices Mean to Economic Developers

» [Online registration](#)

Date: Thursday, October 2

Time: 2:30 - 4:00 pm EST

Port Authority Boardroom, 851 Irving Wick Dr W, Heath, Ohio

No need to RSVP

While there has been some relief at [the pump lately](#), the U.S. has entered an era of sustained high energy prices, and the consequences are complicated and far-reaching. The rapidly escalating price of energy is altering the location choices of businesses and people with subsequent impacts on the competitive location advantages of communities.

The magnitude of this issue cannot be understated. It is transforming: workforce commuting patterns and access to workers; business location priorities from lower cost locations to denser locations closer to markets and distribution channels; and where and how people play and consume.

Join us and a panel of experienced economic developers on October 2nd to discuss the impact of increasing energy prices on economic development and what communities can do to adjust and prosper. Discussion topics will include:

- Business and talent attraction and retention
- Transportation, transit, logistics, and supply change management
- Tourism and recreation
- Density and Population shifts
- Differing impacts on urban, suburban and rural communities
- Industry transformations

Space is limited, register today!

Speakers

W. Kurt Foreman

President

Northwest Louisiana Economic Development Foundation (NLEDF)

Mr. Foreman leads a six-member staff focused on growing the economy in Northwest Louisiana. The Foundation works alongside many partners on business expansion/attraction, marketing/image enhancement, workforce marketing and government procurement assistance efforts. The NLEDF is a regionally focused economic development marketing program focused on ten parishes of northwest Louisiana with offices in Shreveport and Minden, LA. Mr. Foreman joined the Foundation staff in mid-2004.



With 18 years of economic development related experience, he has worked with local and regional economic development organizations, a national corporate site selection firm and residential/retail real estate developers. Mr. Foreman has helped lead three different organizations cited by *Site Selection* magazine as one of the nation's top ten economic development groups. He also spent time with Korn/Ferry International, a global executive search firm, handling senior level searches for clients across the nation.

Mr. Foreman holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and an MBA with distinction from the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. He and his wife, Julie, have four children and live in Shreveport.

Dean Whittaker



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October 6-8 | Butte, MT

• [Economic Development Strategic](#)

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October 9-10 | Anchorage, AK

• [Real Estate Development & Reuse](#)

October 16-17 | Atlanta, GA

» [View all](#)



President
Whittaker Associates, Inc.

Dean Whittaker is President of Whittaker Associates, whose goal is to create, invent, learn and teach. He is often asked to assist on projects as a coach/advisors to the team sharing my 30 years of experience in economic development and industrial/commercial real estate. Dean also performs one-on-one mentoring of economic development professionals and entrepreneurs.



In addition to managing three local chambers of commerce, Dean's background includes serving as a field staff person and managing director of Industrial Development the State of Illinois Department. He also has served as the Director of the Indiana Economic Development Academy and Director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Resources and Applied Research at Ball State University. In addition, Dean has taught for 23 years at the Economic Development Institute the application of information technology to economic development. In 1987, Dean founded Whittaker Associates, Inc. to serve the business intelligence needs of economic development organizations and commercial/industrial real estate firms. He has written several articles, book chapters and given presentations on subjects such as the Change Nature of Work, Targeted Marketing Tactics and Strategies, Using Business Intelligence, to various state development associations, profession groups and organizations.

Dean's academic credentials are from the University of Illinois and Illinois State University, where he has studied engineering and business administration. He is a Certified Economic Developer.

William N. Hearn
President, Site Dynamics
Director, CH2M Hill Lockwood Greene

Will has provided facility location and economic development consulting services for over 18 years, with an emphasis on selecting sites for expansion and managing complex site selection programs for industry. Most recently, Mr. Hearn founded Site Dynamics, a firm focused on building an online marketplace for development agencies and expansion-ready companies.



Will has provided site selection, real estate and transition management consulting services to a wide diversity of clients, including Federal Express, Prudential, Infineon Technologies, Electronic Arts, Schott Solar, TeleTech Holdings and other firms. Prior to joining CH2M HILL Lockwood Greene, Mr. Hearn spent 10 years with a national site selection consulting firm and spent two years working for The University of Georgia, where he developed research park strategies and worked to support biotech economic development. Mr. Hearn spent several years working in Germany as an industrial specialist with IBM Corporation.

Mr. Hearn has completed economic development plans across the United States and overseas. Most recently Will was contracted with The Government of Macedonia to review and certify industrial properties across the country and advise them on immediate strategies to attract foreign direct investment. He has completed economic development strategies for the states of Georgia, North Carolina, West Virginia and others.