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Subject: FW: Allen: New River Airport "Port of Entry"



U.S. Senator

GEORGE ALLEN

News



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ALLEN ANNOUNCES NEW RIVER VALLEY AIRPORT AS A "U.S. PORT OF ENTRY"
Designation Will Boost Economic Development and Opportunity for Southwest Virginia

WASHINGTON, DC - Senator George Allen (R-VA) today announced that the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection has officially designated the New River Valley Airport in Dublin as an officially designated U.S. Port of Entry. The designation was requested by the New River Valley Economic Development Alliance and Senator Allen in February 2004.

"This is exciting and outstanding news for the good people and families throughout Southwest Virginia. This designation will facilitate and greatly enhance economic competitiveness, development and job opportunities for our citizens who will benefit from the New River Valley Airport not only being a convenient facility, but a vital link for commerce in Southwest, Virginia," said Senator Allen.

New River Valley User Fee Airport supports businesses within a ninety-mile radius that depend on the ability to send and receive cargo through the airport. Such a close proximity allows these businesses to hold down their costs by having a Port of Entry and a Foreign Trade Zone located in Dublin. Local economic development officials expect the designation to make regional businesses more comfortable using the airport and to dramatically increase the number of entries.

"This is all together good news for a region that has suffered some economic setbacks in recent years. I am pleased that the federal government used common sense in analyzing the importance of this airport to not only businesses and

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families in Southwest Virginia, but to the entire Commonwealth," said Senator Allen.