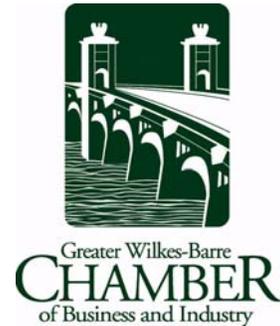


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## **GATEWAY ENERGY SERVICES TO EMPLOY 70 PEOPLE IN NORTHEASTERN PA**

*Forty Fort, PA* - The Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business & Industry announced today that one of the nation's largest independent retail energy suppliers of natural gas and electricity will create as many as 70 full- and part-time jobs by opening its first satellite customer service center in Forty Fort.

Gateway Energy Services, headquartered in Rockland County, N.Y., will open its satellite facility in an 8,545-square-foot space in the Cross Valley West Professional Building. The company will hold a recruiting open house in the space 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday, November 18 and again 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday, December 3. Qualified candidates who have call center, sales, or customer service experience are encouraged to bring their resumés so that they may interview with a Gateway representative. Positions being filled include a sales training manager, call center manager and supervisor, office administrator, plus full- and part-time telemarketing representatives. Gateway also intends to hire 10 residential sales representatives to service the local area. For more information, call (800) 805-8586 and ask for Recruiting, or e-mail [HR@gesc.com](mailto:HR@gesc.com).

With service to thousands of customers in 28 deregulated energy markets across seven states, the District of Columbia and Ontario, Canada, the energy supply company will add Pennsylvania to its service territory early in 2010.

"Opening our customer service center in the Wilkes-Barre area is a perfect fit for us," said Steve Maslak, president and CEO of Gateway. "It's not too far from headquarters and we have the benefit of tapping into a pool of quality employees who will help support company growth and our introduction into the Pennsylvania market."

"We are pleased to welcome Gateway as the latest addition to Greater Wilkes-Barre's business community," stated Todd Vonderheid, the Chamber's President/CEO. "They are only the most recent evidence that, even in the current economic climate, our community offers a superb business platform for companies of all sizes."

The Cross Valley West Professional Building is owned by Wilkes-Barre developer Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services. Mericle has renovated the

huge former Acme Markets warehouse into a modern office and industrial center. The building's office area houses 16 tenants, including Candy's Place, The Brace Place, Northeast Eye Institute, Valley ENT, Geisinger, and Intermountain Health Group and offers suites for lease ranging from 1,000 SF to 20,000 SF.

Mericle worked with Gateway throughout the site selection and leasing process. "We know that finding affordable energy has become a major concern of both residential and commercial customers," said Mericle Vice President Jim Hilsher. "In fact, our research tells us that manufacturing companies list affordable energy as one of the three most important factors they consider when deciding where to locate a new facility. We're glad we are able to meet Gateway's space needs at our Cross Valley West Professional Building and we hope they will be successful in finding cost savings for their energy customers."

"Forty Fort's friendly atmosphere, central location, and access to services and workforce are already known to many local businesses," noted State Representative Phyllis Mundy, "but it's always satisfying to see a national company, such as Gateway, identify those same attributes during their site selection process."

"On behalf of the Borough of Forty Fort, I'd like to welcome Gateway to our community," stated Mayor Boyd Hoats Jr.. "I am certain that the company and its employees will immediately view their decision to locate at Cross Valley West as being a good one. We look forward to having Gateway Energy Services as Forty Fort's newest corporate citizen."

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Gateway Energy Services Corporation has offices in New York and Canada and since 1997, has provided competitive prices, innovative products and personalized customer service to residential and business customers. To learn more, visit [www.gesc.com](http://www.gesc.com).

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