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## Toshiba to bring 194 Mecklenburg jobs

Charlotte Business Journal - by [Will Boye](#) Staff Writer

**Toshiba America Nuclear Energy** is opening a national project-management and engineering center in Charlotte and will create 194 jobs here over the next five years.

The nuclear engineering and construction management jobs will carry an average annual wage of \$122,037, excluding benefits. TANE will invest \$2.8 million and will receive up to \$4.9 million over nine years through a job-development investment grant awarded by the state's economic-investment committee this morning.

Company and government officials announced the project at a press conference Tuesday morning at the Charlotte Chamber.

TANE is based in Falls Church, Va., and is part of **Toshiba America Inc.** The company markets and sells advanced boiling nuclear reactors to be constructed in the United States and provides engineering, licensing, construction management, maintenance and other services for nuclear power plants. The company is the prime contractor for the construction of two nuclear reactors planned near Houston.

Fuyuki Saito, chief executive of TANE, says Charlotte's "cutting-edge nuclear engineering community" was a major draw for the company. The city's highly educated work force, quality of life and cost of living were also considerations, along with government incentives. In addition to the state grant, the company will receive a local business-investment grant from Mecklenburg County totaling nearly \$47,000 over 10 years.

The center is expected to open in August and the company would like to lease space in the Whitehall Corporate Center in southwest Charlotte. **Westinghouse Electric Co.**, a division of **Toshiba Corp.**, recently opened an office there focusing on nuclear plant projects, and the two companies would like to be in close proximity because they will work together, according to Richard DiSalvo, general counsel for TANE.

"That is probably what brought Charlotte to our attention," DiSalvo says of the Westinghouse office.

The company considered other cities in the Southeast before choosing Charlotte for the expansion.

Charlotte has become a magnet for energy companies lately, with the likes of Areva NP Inc., **The Shaw Group Inc.**, URS Corp. and **Sencera International** announcing expansions during the past year. Bob Johnson, dean of UNC Charlotte's college of engineering, says in the past two weeks Areva has hired 16 students from this year's graduating class.

"It's emerged as a national (energy) center," he says of the Queen City. "It's just been exploding."

The majority of the new TANE jobs will go to local hires, DiSalvo says. Employment inquiries should be e-mailed to TANE beginning on Wednesday at [tane\\_nc@tane.toshiba.com](mailto:tane_nc@tane.toshiba.com).