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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 5, 2010

**VISIT FROM EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS OFFICIAL**

CHOCTAW, Miss. – Dr. Michael N. “Mickey” Duvall, director of economic development for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, visited the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians on Wednesday, March 31, 2010. He spoke with officials from MBCI Economic Development, Pearl River Resort, and the Tribal enterprises to gain a better understanding of the Tribe’s diverse business endeavors.

Duvall also toured the facilities at the Choctaw TechParc and had lunch at Dancing Rabbit Golf Club, where he spoke to Tribal officials about projects that the Eastern Band of Cherokees were planning or completing. Afterwards, Duvall went on a tour of Pearl River Resort.

Dr. Duvall was highly impressed with the Tribe’s business portfolio, and he hoped that the two tribes could continue building upon their wonderful relationship.

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*The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, under the esteemed leadership of Miko Beasley Denson, has an enrolled membership of over 10,000 and is the only federally recognized tribe in the State of Mississippi. Headquartered in the Pearl River community, near Philadelphia, Mississippi, the Tribe has emerged as a leader in economic development. The Tribe provides a range of governmental services for its members including schools, a hospital, medical clinics, police and fire protection, courts, an elderly center, among many others.*