

GILCHRIST YODER YODER LEGGETT & THAMES, PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
525 CENTRAL AVENUE
LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440

STEWART J. GILCHRIST (1925-2014)
RICHARD L. YODER
RICHARD LEWIS YODER, JR.
PARKER F. LEGGETT
WILLIAM LAWRENCE THAMES

MAILING ADDRESS
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March 18, 2026

Ms. Kristal Jones
City of Laurel
P. O. Box 647
Laurel, MS 39441


**RE: Howard Industries, Inc.
Free Port Warehouse**

Dear Ms. Jones:

Enclosed please find application of Howard Industries, Inc., for renewal of exemption from ad valorem taxes for the Free Port Warehouse in triplicate, together with suggested orders.

We would appreciate it if you would please put this on the agenda for consideration of the Mayor and City Council. Please return to us a copy of the executed order.

Yours very truly,



Richard L. Yoder

tb

Enclosures

**APPLICATION
FREE PORT WAREHOUSE LICENSE**

AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-51 et seq.,
MISSISSIPPI CODE (1972) AS AMENDED

NAME OF WAREHOUSE: Howard Industries, Inc. - Transformer Division

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 3225 Pendorff Rd., Laurel, MS 39440 Electrical

TYPE OF PROPERTY: Transformers

TOTAL VALUE OF PROPERTY: \$ 82,578,691

PERCENTAGE OF PROPERTY SHIPMENTS WITHIN MISSISSIPPI: 3.595%


LOCATION OF WAREHOUSE: COUNTY _____ CITY X (Check one)

THIS APPLICATION MADE TO: COUNTY _____ CITY X (Check one)

The applicant requests that the applicable governing authorities (Board of Supervisors/Laurel City Council/Ellisville City Council) approve this application and grant the license by declaring that the above warehouse be exempt from all ad valorem taxation on personal property shipped out of state during the calendar year. The applicant is qualified to make application and has submitted the license fee. This information is true and correct as certified by the applicant.

This application is submitted on the 18th day of March, 2026.

Howard Industries, Inc. - Transformer Division
APPLICANT (NAME OF TAXPAYER)

By: 
SIGNATURE

Title: Assistant Secretary

If warehouse is located within municipal limits, separate applications must be filed with Jones County and the City of Laurel or City of Ellisville. If warehouse is located outside of municipal limits, an application must be filed with Jones County.

IF REQUESTING COUNTY EXEMPTION
Mail to: Jones County Tax Assessor
P O Box 511
Laurel MS 39441

IF REQUESTING CITY EXEMPTION
Mail to: Laurel City Clerk Ellisville City Clerk
P O Box 647 110 N Court St
Laurel MS 39441 Ellisville MS 39437

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI - COUNTY OF JONES
FREE PORT WAREHOUSE
REPORT OF INVENTORY AS OF JANUARY 1, 2026 _____

Name of Free Port Warehouse Howard Industries, Inc - Transformer Division

Location Laurel Jones, Mississippi
City *County*

Mailing Address PO BOX 1588, Laurel, MS 39441

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 1. | Total value on inventory as of 1/1/ 26 | <u>\$82,578,691</u> |
| 2. | Estimated percentage of inventory to be shipped to points within Mississippi | <u>3.595%</u> |
| 3. | Amount of inventory subject to be assessed
(Multiply Item 1 times Item 2) | <u>\$2,968,704</u> |

This report is prepared and filed under the terms and provisions of Section 27-31-55, Miss. Code (1972) Ann., As Amended, and certified that on the first day of January, 2026, there was located in the above FREE PORT WAREHOUSE the above listed inventory and none other.

Howard Industries, Inc - Transformer Division
WAREHOUSE (COMPANY)


SIGNATURE OF OFFICER/AGENT

Assistant Secretary
TITLE

Mail to: Jones County Tax Assessor
P O Box 511
Laurel MS 39441

RECEIVED BY _____
Deputy Tax Assessor/Appraiser

DATE: _____

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI - COUNTY OF JONES
FREE PORT WAREHOUSE REPORT OF INVENTORY MOVEMENT**

REPORT OF INVENTORY MOVEMENT FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025 AS
REQUIRED BY SECTION 21-31-55, MISS. CODE (1972) ANN., AS AMENDED.

Name of Free Port Howard Industries, Inc. - Transformer Division

Location Laurel Jones, Mississippi
City County

Mailing Address PO BOX 1588, Laurel, MS 39441

1.	Total shipment of all inventory	<u>\$1,297,524,078</u>
2.	Total shipped to points within Mississippi	<u>\$46,651,147</u>
3.	Percent of shipments within Mississippi <i>(Divide Item 2 by Item 1)</i>	<u>3.595%</u>
4.	Amount of inventory subject to tax as of 1/1/ <u>26</u> <i>(Item 3 times previous year Item 1)</i>	<u>\$1,707,706</u>
5.	Prior estimate <i>(Previous year Item 3)</i>	<u>\$1,349,539</u>
6.	Balance of inventory to be back assessed <i>(Item 4 less Item 5)</i>	<u>\$358,167</u>

This report is prepared and filed under the terms and provisions of Section 27-31-55, Miss. Code (1972) Ann., As Amended, and certified that the dates and amounts of goods stated above are true and correct.

Howard Industries, Inc.
WAREHOUSE (COMPANY)


SIGNATURE OF OFFICER/ AGENT

Assistant Secretary
TITLE

Mail to: Jones County Tax Assessor
P O Box 511
Laurel MS 39441

RECEIVED BY: _____
Deputy Tax Assessor/ Appraiser

DATE: _____

BEFORE THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI

APPLICATION OF HOWARD INDUSTRIES, INC. FOR RENEWAL OF
EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES AS AUTHORIZED
BY SECTION 27-31-51 THROUGH 27-31-61,
CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAUREL, JONES COUNTY,
MISSISSIPPI:

Howard Industries, Inc., a Mississippi corporation domiciled in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi, authorized and doing business under the laws of the State of Mississippi, hereby respectfully makes application for renewal of exemption from ad valorem taxation for inventory values in the Free Port Warehouse located at 3225 Pendorff Road, Laurel, Mississippi, and in support thereof respectfully presents the following facts, to wit:

I.

That Howard Industries, Inc. is a corporation duly created and existing under the laws of the State of Mississippi and is presently doing business in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi.

II.


That Howard Industries, Inc. is a manufacturing concern manufacturing electrical transformers with a State of Mississippi license Free Port Warehouse in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi.

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Howard Industries, Inc. prays that this application for renewal of tax exemption be received and filed, and that upon a hearing hereof the said application may be approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi, finding that the inventory of Howard Industries, Inc. is subject to an exemption from ad valorem taxation and that Howard Industries, Inc. be granted an exemption from ad valorem

taxation as provided by law upon all the inventory certified as eligible with the State Tax Commission of the State of Mississippi.

Respectfully submitted,

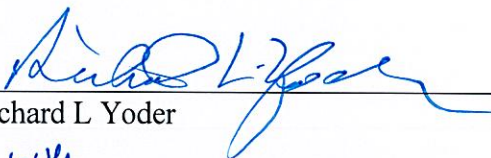
HOWARD INDUSTRIES, INC.


Richard L Yoder, Assistant Secretary

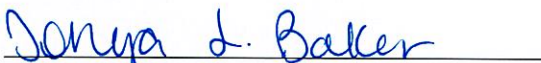
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF JONES

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, RICHARD L YODER, who being by me first duly sworn, states on oath that he is Assistant Secretary of Howard Industries, Inc., a Mississippi corporation, and that as such Secretary for said corporation he is duly authorized to make this affidavit on its behalf and in its name, and that all of the matters and facts set forth in the foregoing application for exemption from ad valorem taxation are true and correct as therein stated.


Richard L Yoder

Sworn to and subscribed before me, on this the 18th day of March, 2026


Notary Public

My commission expires:

8-2-2026



ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION OF HOWARD INDUSTRIES, INC.
FOR RENEWAL OF TAX EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES
AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-51 THROUGH
SECTION 27-31-61 CODE OF 1972 AS AMENDED

There came on for hearing this day before the Mayor and Council of the City of Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi, the sworn application of Howard Industries, Inc. for renewal of exemption from ad valorem taxation for inventory values in their Free Port Warehouse located at 3225 Pendorff Road, Laurel, Mississippi, under provisions of Sections 27-31-51 through 27-31-61 Code of 1972 Annotated, as amended; the Mayor and Council of the City of Laurel having considered same and being fully advised in the premises finds as follows:

I.

That Howard Industries, Inc. is a corporation duly created and existing under the laws of the State of Mississippi and is presently doing business in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi.

II.

That Howard Industries, Inc. is a manufacturing concern manufacturing electrical transformers with a State of Mississippi license Free Port Warehouse in Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi.

III.

That the exemption for renewal should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, that the application of Howard Industries, Inc. for renewal of an exemption from ad valorem taxation for inventory values in the Free Port Warehouse located at 3225 Pendorff Road, Laurel, Mississippi, be approved; that renewal of exemption is hereby granted, and that the inventory of Howard Industries, Inc. certified as eligible with the State Tax Commission of the State of Mississippi be and it is hereby exempt from all ad valorem taxation as provided by law for a period of ten (10) year from and after January 1, 2026.

SO ORDERED on this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Those voting in favor:

Those voting Nay:

APPROVED on this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor, City of Laurel, Mississippi
Jones County, Mississippi

ATTEST:

City Clerk

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF JONES

I, _____, City Clerk, City of Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an order duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the City of Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi at a _____ meeting of said Board held in Laurel, Mississippi, on this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Given under my hand and official seal on this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

City Clerk

(SEAL)

GILCHRIST YODER YODER LEGGETT & THAMES, PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
525 CENTRAL AVENUE
LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440

STEWART J. GILCHRIST (1925-2014)
RICHARD L. YODER
RICHARD LEWIS YODER, JR.
PARKER F. LEGGETT
WILLIAM LAWRENCE THAMES

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WWW.LAURELLAW.COM

March 18, 2026

Ms. Tina Byrd
Jones County Tax Collector
P. O. Box 511
Laurel, MS 39441-0511

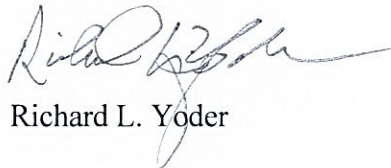
**RE: Howard Industries, Inc.
Application for License to Operate A Free Port Warehouse
Report of Inventory
Report of Inventory Movements**

Dear Ms. Byrd:

Enclosed is the *Application for License to Operate A Free Port Warehouse As Authorized By Sections 27-31-51 et seq., Mississippi Code (1972) As Amended*, for the City of Laurel and Jones County along with our check in the amount of \$10.00 for the application fee. Also enclosed are Forms No. 60-003 and No. 60-004 regarding inventory. If these meet with your approval, please have a filed copy of the approval returned to me. Applications for exemptions have also been filed (in triplicate originals) with the City of Laurel and Jones County.

If you need further information, please contact the undersigned. Thank you for your consideration of and attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,



Richard L. Yoder

tb

Enclosures

cc: Jones County Board of Supervisors
Ms. Kristal Jones, City of Laurel