

Press Release from the Office of the Maury County Mayor

I am both deeply disappointed and dismayed at today's announcement of GM's decision to build their new small car product at Lake Orion, Michigan instead of the GM Spring Hill Facility. This decision will have a detrimental effect on the economy of Maury County and will adversely affect the employment of several thousand persons in our area.

The most frustrating part of the decision is that it apparently is NOT based on sound, basic economic principles, which would clearly have brought this product to Spring Hill. The Spring Hill plant is the most modern, technologically advanced plant in the GM system and is strategically located in the best transportation corridor serving its major markets. Furthermore the workforce at the Spring Hill Facility is second to none and has been recognized nationally for the past five years.

In summation, it is apparent that GM has NOT made a prudent or rational business decision based on which plant could best produce the new small car product but has allowed other influences to dictate their decision. No state or local government has done more for their GM facility in the modern era than the State of Tennessee and Maury County Governments. All the services, training dollars, infrastructure, and in lieu of tax agreements provided to GM since 1985 have been tossed aside and forgotten and the Spring Hill Facility has been sacrificed and its future put in jeopardy despite being the only logical choice based solely on good, prudent business principles.

The State of Tennessee and Maury County Government could not afford to, nor should they have been expected to, make any additional financial incentives to the GM Corporation to induce the production of the new product at Spring Hill. General Motors has made two incredible, irresponsible business decisions in the last month that mimic the same mentality that stopped and then dismantled the Columbia Dam a couple of decades ago.

Maury County Government will take the appropriate measures to adjust to this decision by GM and will continue to be a strong, viable community.