

“Diamond Electric May Add 100 Jobs”  
05/30/2005

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Tokyo – Diamond Electric executives told Gov. Joe manchin in a briefing today that new business in North America is so good they will be adding 100 jobs at Eleanor in the not-too-distant future.

The company has hinted already this year that expansion could be imminent. The plant underwent a major expansion last year, creating 40 new jobs, and has been hailed as a success story. When Toyota announced its \$120 million expansion in Buffalo in April, Diamond Electric was believed to be one of the plants one of three in West Virginia that supplies Toyota with parts that employees put into engines. The governor’s office is planning to make an announcement soon about Diamond Electric, Manchin said after meeting with the company’s executives today. “I think they have big plans for West Virginia,” Manchin said after today’s visit. “I think they are very satisfied.”

Manchin and the West Virginia trade delegation traveling with him arrived in Tokyo today by bullet train after an intense evening and morning with the top executives of Diamond Electric. The Japanese maker of auto ignition coils and electronic controls treated the West Virginians to a grand banquet Sunday evening in Osaka and rolled out the red carpet this morningt when the West Virginians visted company headquarters just outside of town.

Shigeji Ikenaga, the chairman of Diamond Electric, and his son, Shigehiko Ikenaga,made it clear that their company is very pleased with its plant in Eleanor, Putnam County, which was established in 1997. In fact, during today’s briefing, the executives told Manchin about the likelihood of adding 100 jobs at Eleanor.