



## Thomaston Development Project Underway

Priority Group Leads Development of Nouria Lil' Mart and McDonald's®

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TOPSHAM, Maine – Nouria Energy Corporation, along with Priority Group of Topsham announced today the development of a new state of the art convenience store, gas station and McDonald's® restaurant in Thomaston, Maine. The project is located at the corner of Dexter Street and US Rte 1 with businesses due to open this year.

Nouria Energy owns and operates multi-use gas stations, and is a leading distributor for Shell, Irving Oil and Gulf brands in the United States. Founded in 1989 and based in Worcester, Massachusetts, Nouria acquires existing service stations, builds new ones and provides services such as car washes, as well as co-located restaurants.

“Nouria is pleased to be working and building in the State of Maine to fuel the local economy,” stated Tony El-Nemr, Founder and President of Nouria Energy. “Our growth in Maine is a testament to the hardworking individuals in this state.”

The McDonald's restaurant will be owned and operated by Ron and Cyndi Lydick of Falmouth. The Lydicks also own McDonald's in Rockland, Damariscotta, Gardiner, Gray, Brunswick, Yarmouth and Freeport. This is their first partnership with Nouria Energy.

“My management team and I are looking forward to welcoming the residents of the Thomaston area to our new location,” said Lydick. “We are happy to be partnering on this project with Nouria and becoming a part of the Thomaston business community.”

Partnering with Priority Group, LLC, a Topsham based business whose integrated companies develop, own and operate assets exceeding \$85 MM of commercial real estate in the state of Maine, these two firms are surpassing the goals they set out to accomplish. The Thomaston complex is one of three projects that they have successfully developed in 2011.

“Private investment by businesses both small and large will contribute greatly to turning the economy around”, stated Jim Howard, President and CEO of Priority Group. “We are excited about creating jobs in the Thomaston community. Maine is a great place to do business, and we are honored to be working together with outstanding institutions that have a shared commitment to our state.”

Priority Group, LLC was formed in 1994 and specializes in commercial real estate and development. The group also includes project management (Priority Management Group, LLC) and real estate investment (First Priority Capital, LLC).

The Thomaston businesses will be in full operation by early December, when the doors will be open to the public.