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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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March 29, 2005

First Fully Renewable Biodiesel Plant Announced in Texas

City of Denton Teams Up with Supplier for Unprecedented Eco-Friendly Fuel Production

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – The City of Denton, Texas, and Biodiesel Industries, Inc., today dedicated the latest biodiesel plant to join the rapidly growing effort in meeting demand for biodiesel. The plant is unique because it is powered by renewable biogas extracted from an adjacent landfill. This is the first renewable energy-powered plant to produce biodiesel.

“Not only is the product better for the environment, but so is the production process,” said Joe Jobe, executive director of the National Biodiesel Board (NBB).

Biodiesel is a renewable alternative to petroleum diesel and can be used by itself or blended with petroleum diesel. It substantially reduces air pollution and is nontoxic and biodegradable. This fuel runs in diesel engines with few or no modifications, but offers premium fuel characteristics like increased lubricity, adding to engine life by reducing wear and tear. Biodiesel is a designated alternative fuel under federal law and is fully registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Speakers at the announcement today included Daryl Hannah, actress and biodiesel advocate; Joe Jobe of NBB and Euline Brock, Denton mayor. “We will be able to resolve some of our major environmental challenges while providing a major service to the public,” said Brock.

“In addition to being one of America’s leading oil-producing states, Texas is a leading agricultural state,” said Jobe. “Biodiesel offers an opportunity for Texas and other states to replace the oil fields of the Middle East, with America’s vegetable oil fields right here at home. By growing our own fuel, we not only help supplement and stabilize our energy supply and national security, but we are growing new jobs and opportunities in rural America.”

The three million gallon capacity plant is a cooperative effort between Biodiesel Industries and the City of Denton. Local restaurants are also included, as their used cooking oil will be collected and used in the operation, along with other local farm-based feedstocks.

“We are very pleased to welcome Biodiesel Industries of Greater Dallas Fort-Worth as the newest affiliate to our nationwide network of biodiesel production facilities,” said Russell Teall, President of Biodiesel Industries. “This project is the first of its kind. All of the energy needs of the facility, including all process heat and power, will be provided by renewable landfill gas from the City of Denton.”

The City will fuel its diesel vehicle fleet with B20, a blend of 80 percent diesel and 20 percent biodiesel produced from the facility. The City's fleet-wide use of biodiesel is estimated to reduce criteria emissions from its vehicles by almost 12 tons per year, a welcome reduction in an area plagued by some of the most polluted air in the nation. This alternative fuel will also be sold through regional distribution channels. According to the City of Denton, the project will stimulate local economic development.

More than 500 fleets like the City of Denton use the fuel. It is available at more than 400 retail fueling sites and from more than 1,400 distributors nationwide.

The Denton project is the fifth biodiesel production project completed by California-based Biodiesel Industries and uses a proprietary technology that is "feedstock neutral," meaning that it can produce quality biodiesel from many different resources such as soy bean oil and used french fry oil. Quality control systems are built into the process control automation for the facilities, ensuring that the biodiesel produced meets stringent U.S. and European standards.

Readers can learn more about biodiesel and the NBB by visiting www.biodiesel.org. Sponsored by the USDA Biodiesel Education Program.

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