



NEWS RELEASE

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Maple River Energy starts construction on biodiesel plant

Urbandale, Iowa – The Iowa Biodiesel Board (IBB) congratulates Maple River Energy, LLC, as construction gets underway for a new biodiesel manufacturing plant and soybean crush facility south of Galva, Iowa. The plant is designed to produce 5 million gallons of biodiesel annually.

“Maple River Energy, LLC, is another example of Iowa’s leadership in biodiesel, and it’s investors are on the front line of a movement to reduce our dependence on imported Middle East crude oil while increasing our dependence on Midwestern farmers,” says Randy Olson, IBB executive director.

The Maple River Energy, LLC, project includes a crushing facility that will convert 3 million bushels of soybeans into soybean meal and soybean oil each year. The facility will produce 75,000 tons of soybean meal annually. The soybean oil will make approximately 3.5 million gallons of biodiesel. When practical, corn oil will be used to meet the 5-million-gallon biodiesel annual production capacity. In addition to the fuel, 500,000 gallons of glycerin will be produced and marketed.

“By having a crush facility, it gives us a competitive edge as feedstock oil prices increase. We’re buying soybeans from farmers and making our own oil, instead of having to buy oil from another facility at market prices,” says Delayne Johnson of Galva, Iowa. He manages the Galva Holstein Ag, LLC, and will be general manager of Maple River Energy, LLC.

The plant is scheduled to begin operation in early fall 2008. Total cost of the new plant is estimated at \$20 million and will provide 15 full-time jobs for Ida County. An equity drive held earlier this year raised \$10 million for the project.

The new facility at Galva will add to the expanding biodiesel industry in Iowa. The state currently has 13 biodiesel plants in operation and more than 150 retail locations in Iowa sell biodiesel. The use of biodiesel helps the environment by reducing carbon dioxide emissions, aids in U.S. energy security and provides economic advantages to both the rural and urban sectors of the nation.

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The Iowa Biodiesel Board represents the biodiesel industry in Iowa, from production through distribution to end-users. The IBB promotes the commercial success of biodiesel in Iowa.

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