



## **Renewable Energy Group<sup>®</sup>, Inc. announces plans for construction of 60 MGY biodiesel plant**

*Renewable Energy Group, Inc.'s biodiesel marketing network capacity would grow with addition of Emporia, Kansas biodiesel plant which would employ 30 people*

(Emporia, KS, April 13, 2007)—Renewable Energy Group<sup>®</sup>, Inc. today announced plans to build a commercial-scale, multiple feedstock biodiesel production facility in Emporia, Kansas. The 60 million gallon per year plant would break ground early this summer and employ approximately 30 people.

“This project will create about 100 jobs during the 14 month construction period and will create at least 30 full time jobs once the plant is in production,” said Kent Heermann, President of the Regional Development Association of East Central Kansas (RDA). “The RDA is currently working with Renewable Energy Group, Inc. to accommodate the needed infrastructure improvements for the site, performance-based incentives and the necessary zoning change.”

The Regional Development Association, Emporia Enterprises and Renewable Energy Group, Inc. will host an informational meeting Tuesday, April 17, 2007 in Conference Rooms B and C at the Flint Hills Technical College, 3301 West 18th Street in Emporia. An overview of the project will be presented from 4:30 to 5:00 with an open session for conversations with the Renewable Energy Group, Inc. team from 5:15 to 6:00.

Renewable Energy Group, Inc., a full-service biodiesel company and the nation’s leader in biodiesel marketing, will own and operate the state-of-the-art facility which is scheduled for production start-up by the end of 2008. At that time, Renewable Energy Group, Inc.’s biodiesel network is slated to market more than 310 million gallons of biodiesel a year.

“The decision to locate this plant in Emporia, Kansas was a strategic one,” said Nile Ramsbottom, President and Chief Operating Officer of Renewable Energy Group, Inc. “A crush facility owned by Bunge North America, who is a Renewable Energy Group, Inc. strategic partner, is located near our planned facility and will become an important feedstock supplier.”

The plant is slated for 42.7 acres of land in an East Park III in southeast Emporia south of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad line and south west of the intersection of South Avenue and Road M-5. The turnkey production facility will include patented continuous flow technology as well as several vital components including; a pre-treatment area to refine and filter feed stocks such as soybean oil and animal fats; an in-house laboratory that will run tests to ensure all biodiesel meets or exceeds ASTM D-6751 quality standards before leaving the production site; a storage area for raw materials and finished product; and a highly automated load-out and receiving area to move products via truck and rail. The plant will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and employ skilled workers in positions ranging from plant operators to lab technicians to a general manager.

Renewable Energy Group, Inc. worked with the RDA, the City of Emporia staff, Kansas Gas, Westar Energy, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, Kansas Bioscience Authority and the Kansas Department of Commerce in developing plans for the biodiesel manufacturing facility.

“We are very pleased that Renewable Energy Group has selected Emporia as the location for their 60 million gallon biodiesel manufacturing facility,” said Jeff Longbine, Chair of the Regional Development Association of East Central Kansas. “This facility will help Renewable Energy Group, Inc. keep pace

with the expanding alternative fuel demand as the United States lowers its dependency on foreign oil supplies. Renewable Energy Group, Inc. has been the leader in the production of biodiesel for ten years and has positioned itself to remain as the industry leader.”

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**About Renewable Energy Group, Inc.**

Renewable Energy Group, Inc. is the biodiesel industry leader of B100 sales and is the only full-service biodiesel company offering plant management, risk management, raw material procurement, plant construction, biodiesel production and biodiesel sales and marketing services. Renewable Energy Group, Inc. markets SoyPOWER® biodiesel to customers in many industries including on-highway fleets, original equipment manufacturers, maritime, military, home heating and agriculture industries.

**About the REG® Network**

*Renewable Energy Group, Inc.-owned facilities*

<u>Location</u>	<u>Annual Gallons Produced</u>	<u>Phase</u>
Ralston, Iowa*	12 MGY	Began Production in 2003
Cairo, Illinois	60 MGY	Pre-Construction
Emporia, Kansas	60 MGY	Pre-Construction

*Renewable Energy Group, Inc.-managed facilities*

<u>Location</u>	<u>Annual Gallons Produced</u>	<u>Phase</u>
SoyMor Biodiesel, LLC*	30 MGY	Began Production Summer 2005
Western Iowa Energy, LLC*	30 MGY	Began Production Summer 2006
Central Iowa Energy, LLC	30 MGY	Began Production Spring 2007
Iowa Renewable Energy, LLC	30 MGY	Scheduled Production: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2007
Western Dubuque Biodiesel, LLC	30 MGY	Scheduled Production: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2007
East Fork Biodiesel, LLC	60 MGY	Scheduled Production: 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2008
Heartland Biodiesel, LLC	30 MGY	Pre-construction
Blackhawk Biofuels, LLC	30 MGY	Pre-construction
Victory Renewable Fuels, LLC	30 MGY	Pre-construction

*\*designates a BQ-9000 Accredited Producer*

**About the Regional Development Association**

The RDA is collaborative partnership between Lyon County, the City of Emporia, Emporia Enterprises and the Emporia Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau. This collaborative partnership has time and time again yielded positive results in industrial expansion and job creation. Since 1995, the return on investment has increased the capital investment in buildings and equipment by \$558,149,270, has increased manufacturing & warehouse space of 1,551,723 square feet and has created over 1,000 new jobs. We are optimistic that Emporia’s future will continue to prosper.

To learn more please visit [www.emporia.com/econdev](http://www.emporia.com/econdev)

**More Information**

For more information, please contact Alicia Clancy, (712) 667-3418 or [alicia.clancy@regfuel.com](mailto:alicia.clancy@regfuel.com)

To learn more about Renewable Energy Group, Inc., please visit [www.regfuel.com](http://www.regfuel.com)