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Energy Grains Biomass to Collect Stover

The Kearney Based Company Will Collect Cellulosic Residues for Ethanol Production

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KEARNEY, Nebraska: Energy Grains Biomass, LLC., a Kearney-based supplier of corn stover and other cellulosic feedstocks used to make biofuels, announced today the signing of a multi-year agreement to supply biomass to NextStep Biofuels, Inc. of Gretna, Nebraska, a cellulosic ethanol development company, which plans to build a cellulosic ethanol production facility in central Nebraska. The new contract is expected to create 26 full-time jobs as well as 24 seasonal jobs at the company's collection sites.

“Our mission is to supply the emerging cellulosic ethanol industry with reliable, price-stable access to cellulosic feedstocks,” explains Energy Grains Biomass President Paul Kenney. “A sophisticated cellulosic supply chain, fully supported by the American farmer, is essential for cellulosic ethanol to realize its vast potential. We’re thrilled to be working with the biofuels veterans at NextStep Biofuels and we look forward to handling their feedstock needs so they can concentrate on the important business of building and operating profitable, next-generation bio-refineries” Kenney concluded.



“When you invest hundreds of millions of dollars into building a state-of-the-art, cellulosic ethanol plant, it’s vitally important to know where you’re going to secure the feedstocks needed to keep it running,” explains NextStep Biofuels COO Russ Zeeck. “NextStep’s partnership with Energy Grains Biomass gives us great comfort that our feed-stock needs will be met for years to come.”

Energy Grains Biomass' early focus has been on securing supplies of corn stover, but the company says it is now also working with farmers to supply soybean stubble, wheat straw, milo stubble, forage sorghum and other promising forms of agricultural residue.

“We are very pleased with the continued development of Energy Grains Biomass and their addition of cellulosic materials,” said Dale Pohlmann, chairman of the Buffalo County Economic Development Council. “The collection of cellulosic materials from the farmers in central Nebraska helps assure the ag producer will be able to continue to be a part of this ever-expanding industry.”

Energy Grains Biomass (EGB), LLC is building an integrated supply chain to source, harvest, transport, store, process and profitably market large volumes of cellulosic materials for use in making clean, affordable biofuels. In cooperation with America's farmers, EGB hopes to ensure the success of cellulosic ethanol – and the energy independence of our nation – by providing bio-refiners with long term, price-stable access to diverse cellulosic feedstocks.

www.EnergyGrainsBiomass.com

NextStep Biofuels, Inc. is dedicated to the profitable, environmentally-sound production of cellulosic ethanol. Comprised of seasoned biofuels operators, the NextStep team has successfully commercialized bio-refining technologies since the birth of the U.S. fuel ethanol industry over 25 years ago. NextStep licenses and matches the right cellulosic technologies to the right feedstocks at strategically chosen sites. NextStep secures long-term, price-stable supplies of cellulosic biomass from the paper mills, lumber companies, municipalities, farm co-ops and feedstock aggregators.

www.NextStepBiofuels.com.

Representing Buffalo County and Kearney, the Buffalo County Economic Development Council (BCED) has been in existence for 23 years and provides economic and industrial development services for existing and new primary employers. The Council is overseen by a 15 member board of directors chaired by Dale Pohlmann of Ravenna and vice chairman Tom Henning of Kearney. More information can be found at www.ci.kearney.ne.us.



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