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Alternative Energy Company to Propose Kingstree Operations

Carolina-Pacific to be Heard by Williamsburg County Council

CHARLESTON, SC – Carolina-Pacific LLC, a newly formed alternative energy company, announced that it has identified Williamsburg County as the primary target of its proposed state-of-the-art biofuel facilities, promising to revitalize agricultural production through modern refining technologies.

On Tuesday, May 15th, executives from the company's Charleston offices will present Williamsburg County Council its strategy to build eight biodiesel plants generating a total of 58 million gallons per year and a 100 million gallon per year ethanol plant on sites selected with the support of the County Council and the Williamsburg County Economic Development Board.

In this first stage of Carolina-Pacific's plan for revitalizing the local economy through innovative energy production, the required investment will approach \$250 million. Once operational, the facilities will bring some 160 direct jobs and another 1,500 indirect jobs through its supply and distribution activities in the area. "Once permitted, the twelve-month construction phase of each ethanol facility will generate another 250

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jobs for Williamsburg County,” according to Frank Evans, Carolina-Pacific vice president of Infrastructure. “We perceive that we will keep these construction workers busy in the development of other ethanol production and petroleum blending facilities for broad regional distribution.”

After months of research, the company has determined to pursue Switchgrass as the feedstock of choice for its Kingstree ethanol facility. “Using modern and emerging biotechnologies, Switchgrass generates more than ten times the fuel from an acre of land than corn produces,” explained Evans, a native of Kingstree. “Although President Bush has been encouraging Switchgrass as a feedstock since his 2006 State of the Union Address, we will be the first in the nation to take advantage of its potential,” said Evans.

Company executives anticipate that the proposed relationship with Williamsburg County Council will allow it to negotiate sensible incentives for the company and its investors to invest in the local economy.

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