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Local news By PAUL GIANNAMORE, Business editor



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CADIZ — Harrison Ethanol's facility has won recognition from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for its innovation.

Unlike other ethanol facilities which have perhaps two revenue streams, Harrison Ethanol can have as many as nine.

They are:

- Fuel grade ethanol.
- Carbon dioxide.
- Dried distillers grain for use as animal feeds.
- Milk from dairy cattle on site who are fed the grain.
- Beef from cattle fed the grain.

Waste from the refinery and the cattle is fed into an anerobic digester, which creates boiler fuels and gas to fuel a power plant.

Harrison Ethanol's applications for its rail grants note that most ethanol plants rely on ethanol production for 80 percent of their revenues while Harrison will rely on ethanol sales for only about 37 percent of its revenues.

As managing member Wendell Dreve says, "We're trying to build a long-term project that will survive the ethanol bubble and be a supplier for the next 30 years."

It is the cattle end of the operation that made the plant competitive with ethanol facilities in states that provide direct ethanol incentives.

The company anticipates 383 construction jobs with nearly 170 total permanent jobs to come with the operation of the plant.

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Its rail application details that 107 permanent jobs will be at the Harrison County facility, with 74 of those in the \$10- to \$12-an-hour range, 25 jobs in the \$16- to \$17-an-hour range and eight jobs above \$20 an hour.

There will be 60 contract truck driver jobs created.

The estimated cash flow into Harrison County's economy as a result of the plant will be \$85 million.

To consume as much as half the distiller's grain, what is left behind after ethanol refining takes place, there will be as many as 10,000 head of beef and 2,000 dairy cattle housed in barns on the site. Remaining grain will be sold off site.

Waste from the cattle will be removed several times a day to feed into the digester.

The output of the digester will include clean water, methane and carbon dioxide, a liquid fertilizer including nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, and a dry material similar to peat moss, according to Harrison Ethanol's documents on file with the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

All told, the dairy and beef facilities would produce up to 51.2 million gallons of manure annually.

Methane from the digester will be used to power a boiler to drive an electric generating turbine system.

The plant would be able to provide its own power needs as well as sell electricity off site.

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