

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PADUCAH, KY. (Oct. 2, 2007) – McCracken County, the City of Paducah, Paducah-McCracken Riverport Authority and the Greater Paducah Economic Development Council, have announced that Paducah, Ky-based, Southland Renewable Fuel, LLC, will construct a state-of-the-art, 60 million gallon per year biodiesel manufacturing facility in the new Riverport West Industrial Park located on Noble Road.

Southland Renewable Fuels, LLC is a homegrown company comprised of local investors and farmers. The biodiesel company will use the latest technology, utilizing an environmentally friendly “waterless wash” process, with virtually no air emissions, to create clean-burning alternative fuel. The facility is the first large-scale biodiesel facility in Western Kentucky. Phase I of construction consists of a \$60 million capital investment and 25 new employees. The facility will process 60 million gallons of fuel and six million gallons of pharmaceutical grade glycerin annually. Glycerin is used in numerous consumer goods products. Phase II consists of an additional \$40 million capital investment, an additional 40 employees and the addition of a tank farm and crushing facility. Both phases will be completed in 3 years.

To further demonstrate their commitment to western Kentucky, Southland has selected Calvert City-based Morsey Constructors, LLC, the region’s largest industrial contractor, to construct the facility. Morsey is an operating company of Paducah-based Harper Industries. “We are very pleased to be involved in this important western Kentucky project,” said Morsey president Jason Siener. “The project will have a dramatic impact on the regional economy, and it will create numerous construction jobs in the area.”

Southland Renewable Fuel's managing members Dean Domé and Tim Swinford acknowledged McCracken County, the City of Paducah, GPEDC, the Paducah-McCracken County Riverport Authority, and the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development for their aggressive efforts in recruiting the company. "This facility will utilize cutting edge technology that will help reduce America's dependence on foreign oil. We will be purchasing raw materials and crops from farmers in the region. The support provided by Local and State Governments was the deciding factor in our decision to locate here. We would not be here today without the help we received from all parties, especially Judge Executive Van Newberry and the States KIDA and KEIA incentives."

McCracken County Judge Executive Van Newberry welcomed Southland to McCracken County and pointed out, "This is a banner day for Paducah/McCracken County. By supporting this new company we are declaring our confidence in the local team of business and professional men and women who are investing their time and money in this new and exciting venture. The company's business plan shows me that a tremendous amount of work and planning went into this project. Helping a local start-up is very important to diversifying the economic base of the county."

Mayor Bill Paxton noted "Southland is an innovative company with state-of-the-art technology. We are all confident that Southland's biodiesel project will be successful and will be a tremendous addition to our region's business community. This project will positively impact farmers in the region. The property owned by the Riverport Authority is an excellent location for any company requiring access to the river network. It is a truly unique site in Kentucky."

"GPEDC is thrilled about this new locally based start-up locating in McCracken County," said Chairman Rex Smith, pointing out that Southland's announcement reinforces the importance of having available property ready for occupancy. "This announcement reinforces the importance we are placing on assisting entrepreneurs in the community that can take a concept and make it a reality. Southland's decision to locate in Paducah/McCracken County is a testament to the idea that Western Kentucky is "open for business."

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