

Outlook

July/August 2005

Operation Oswego County Inc., An Economic and Job Development Corporation Serving Oswego County, NY

Ethanol Production Facility Revitalizes Former Miller Brewery in Fulton

In July, Governor George Pataki announced that Northeast Biofuels and a unique combination of business, labor, educational institutions and government will combine resources to facilitate a \$157 million project to produce ethanol—an alternative fuel that's more cost-effective and cleaner for the environment.

Northeast Biofuels plans to utilize a 90-acre subdivision of the former Miller Brewery in Fulton to construct a

100-million-gallon-per-year ethanol production facility which will make it one of the largest ethanol producers in the nation.

The company will retrofit approximately 300,000 square feet of the existing building and construct two grain silos and one cooling tower. In addition, the

facility will be the first in the nation to produce ethanol and biodiesel fuels in one, central location.

By the fall, NextGen Fuel will begin production of transportation biodiesel and bioheating fuel, which will help offset the use of imported petroleum products and reduce emissions. Two of Northeast Biofuels' major partner-suppliers, Perdue Farms and BOC Gases, will also make major investments in the project.

Not only will this project position Oswego County as a leader in the renewable fuels industry, it will also provide the Fulton area and the county with new jobs and economic opportunities.

Northeast Biofuels, Perdue and BOC Gases will employ an estimated 100 workers, while over 1,000 indirect jobs are projected to be created in

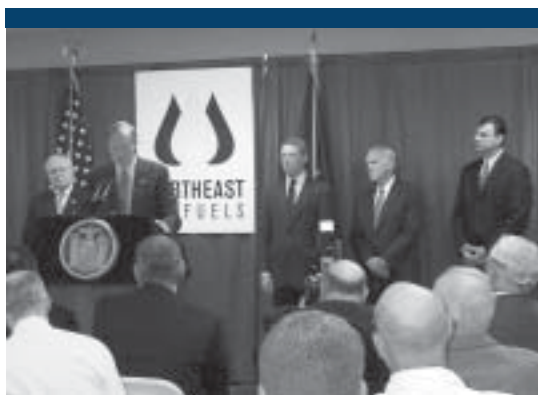
the agriculture and transportation sectors alone. More than 300 will be employed during the 15 month construction phase.

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—L. Michael Treadwell, CECd

partners should be commended for their visionary leadership in the renewable energy industry and investment in Oswego County," said L. Michael Treadwell, CECd, executive director of Operation Oswego County. "This project would not be possible without the invaluable support by Governor Pataki, Senator James Wright, Congressman John McHugh, Assemblyman Will Barclay, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Empire State Development, IBEW Local 43 and Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 73."



Gov. George Pataki announces plans to utilize the former Miller Brewery in Fulton to construct an ethanol production facility. Pictured are, from left, Sen. James Wright, Gov. Pataki, Assemblyman Will Barclay, Eric Will, principal of Northeast Biofuels, and Oswego County Legislature Chairman Russ Johnson.

Young Professional Group to Partner with Leadership Oswego County

“YP Voice,” a new young professional networking and community activism organization, will partner with SUNY Oswego’s Center for Business and Community Development and Leadership Oswego County (LOC) to connect non-profit boards with young professionals seeking increased community involvement.

LOC participants embark on a nine-month course of intensive study of leadership skills, resources and current issues that prepare students to serve the community in the roles of board member, citizen, employee or volunteer with organizations that serve Central New York.

Utilizing the LOC alumni database, YP Voice (YPV) will

match a board’s needs with the prospective members’ interests in order to facilitate the advancement of young professionals into leadership positions in the community.

“One of our top priorities for attracting and retaining this critical demographic is to support young talent as they assume leadership positions in the community. We are thrilled that YPV has agreed to utilize the LOC alumni database to facilitate the development of future leaders in Oswego County.”

For more information about YP Voice membership and/or board member referral services, contact Shannon White, YP Voice president, at 343-1545 or swhite@oswegocounty.org.

\$1 Million in Funding For University-Industry Partnerships

The “Grants for Growth” (GFG) program will offer up to \$50,000 in matching funds for innovative applied research projects between universities and industry that have the potential to improve business competitiveness and create jobs. The program is part of the Metropolitan Development Association’s (MDA) Essential New York Initiative.

The program seeks to increase innovation and technology commercialization within the central upstate regional economy. Through a combination of grants and no-interest loans, the GFG program is designed to give companies greater access to the unique knowledge, expertise and educational resources available at regional research institutions.

All proposals require evidence of detailed planning and sound budget justification, and must clearly spell out the underlying assumptions, intended approaches, milestones and deliverables. Proposals will be reviewed by an 11-member Advisory Committee. Awards will be made on a rolling basis until all program funds have been expended.

For more information and eligibility requirements, contact the Metropolitan Development Association at 315-422-8284, or to download an application, visit www.essentialny.com/gfg.



OOC Business Assistance:

Lower Falls Development, LLC will renovate the 102-year-old, three-story Brickhouse Building in Fulton to include professional offices, retail stores and apartments. The project is an integral component of waterfront development. The project will receive funding assistance from the Fulton Community Development Agency, the Community Preservation Corporation and the County of Oswego Industrial Development Agency;

Harbor Lights will expand its outpatient clinic for adults and adolescents suffering from alcohol and/or drug abuse

related issues. A new 7,360 square foot building will be constructed as well as renovations of an existing building at its new location on Scenic Avenue in Mexico. The project will receive funding assistance from Community Bank, an SBA 504 loan through OOC and the IDA; and

Grant Avenue Development will renovate a vacant building on county Route 13 in Pulaski into an Arby’s restaurant. The project will receive funding assistance from the IDA and will create 18 jobs. Grant Avenue Development also operates Arby’s restaurants in Fulton and Oswego.

Entergy Launches “Power of Hope” Fund for Hurricane Katrina Victims

Entergy Corporation, the electric and gas utility that serves the areas hardest hit by hurricanes Katrina and Rita, launched the “Power of Hope” Fund and seeded the fund with an initial corporate donation of \$1 million. The fund has grown to \$3.7 million thanks to many corporate and individual donations.

The fund will be used to help disaster victims, many of whom can be counted among the ranks of Entergy’s own employees. The fund differs from immediate relief efforts of other agencies in that it will focus on helping victims transition from shelters back into the community.

Entergy has restored power to 1.8 million customers since the landfall of Hurricane Katrina. Hurricane Rita created even greater damage to Entergy’s transmission system and substations interrupting service to over 766,000. All customers affected by both hurricanes who currently can take power have been restored.

Entergy’s James A. FitzPatrick nuclear power plant is located in Scriba.

The fund is administered through the Foundation for the Mid South. Tax-deductible contributions are accepted by phone at 1-888-355-8168 or at www.powerofhope.com. One hundred percent of every donation will provide direct aid to hurricane victims.

Agricultural Grant Opportunity Announced

The New York State “Grow New York” Food and Agriculture Industry Development (FAID) Program is designed to fund research and development projects that enhance the production, processing and distribution of agricultural products and food in New York State. The program provides matching funds, up to \$60,000, to public and private agencies, organizations, businesses, educational institutions, local governments and individuals that submit proposals which implement innovative and low-risk approaches to the research, development, production, processing and distribution of agricultural products.

Eligible projects should capitalize on the state’s unique resources and strategic location near significant markets, and must involve market development or expansion, production

diversification, processing and distribution system development; facilitate commercial application of new technologies; or conduct feasibility studies.

This year, the Department has set aside 25 percent of the available funds for renewable energy projects, projects that involve fuels derived from biomass. Prospective renewable energy projects may focus on the assessment of feedstock sources, efficiency studies, pilot plant experiments, market identification, and the development of new technology.

FAID applications are available by contacting the department at (800) 544-4501, or by downloading the form from at www.agmkt.state.ny.us/RFPS.html.

All applications for funding must be received by the department by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2005.

CNY Job Search Engine Now Available

To facilitate the attraction and retention of talent in Central New York, the Essential New York Initiative (ENYI), a regional strategy to accelerate the transformation of Central New York to a technology-driven economy, recently launched its free job search engine www.essentialnyjobs.com.

Visitors can enter key words such as “chemical engineer” or “laboratory technician,” and the

search engine will produce a list of available job openings. Job seekers then click the individual jobs and are linked to the site where information on the job is posted. The site currently scans more than 400 area websites listing more than 8,000 jobs available in the 12-county region. The new site was made possible by a \$50,000 grant from Bank of America.





44 West Bridge Street
Oswego, NY 13126
Phone: (315) 343-1545
Fax: (315) 343-1546
E-mail: ooc@oswegocounty.org
www.oswegocounty.org

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Operation Oswego County is a unique organization working to enhance and protect the business and industrial climate of Oswego County and its diverse communities.

To achieve that goal, we provide comprehensive assistance to both local businesses and industry seeking to locate in our county.

To our business clients, OOC means opportunities for expansion, relocation, better business climate, and even for survival that may not otherwise be possible.

To the people of Oswego County, OOC means new job opportunities, broader real property tax bases, and a better economic future for all.

Since our inception, we have helped deliver \$2.4 billion in investments and over 15,000 new and retained jobs to Oswego County.

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