



## President's Report

October 23, 2008

Plant Update - Total number of on-site workers = 250+

**Estimated Grind = 12-18-08**

- Weather: Wet weather is a hindrance and has impacted areas stated below:
- Grain handling: Receiving Corn: Commissioning of silos will follow, filling each silo 20-30%, alternating, until 100% full.
- Storage tank progress Hydro testing in progress.
- Process building: Roof work in progress. Electrical/instrumentation terminations ongoing.
- North and South Rail line: Loop tracks 90% complete – Connections and ballast in Receiving Building, and N & S Loops has been impacted by Wet weather. Slight delay has occurred. Completion will continue as weather permits.
- Wells: Pumping from wells in progress.
- Steam Pipeline: Pipeline 85% complete – Two additional foundations will be added to span easement of 42" force main. Agreement with CBWW has been resolved. Progress has continued. Wet weather has impacted progress in this area. Will continue as weather permits.
- Energy center: Electrical/instrumentation terminations ongoing.
- Wet cake pads: Electrical/instrumentation terminations ongoing.
- DDG: Conveyor work is complete inside of Storage Building. Conveyors between Storage and Energy Center ongoing.
- Cooling Tower: Substantial complete.
- Natural gas pipeline: 4" piping for final connection to city let down station has been impacted by Wet weather. Will continue as weather permits.
- Scale/Probe buildings: Buildings set. Final utilities are being terminated.
- Site paving: Paving 65% complete – Wet weather has impacted progress. Paving continues as weather permits.

## Management

- New Management Hires: Jackie Andersen has been hired as our Laboratory Manager. Jackie has 18 years fermentation experience, 13 years in research, and was published in the *Journal of Industrial Microbiology* for research done with USAMIRID. Richard Dike has been hired as our Production Manager. Richard most recently started up and ran the 50 mmgpy ICM design plant for EEnergy as a production shift leader and has several year's management experience prior to joining SIRE. Both will report to Dan Wych. Scott Hohenthauer has been hired as our Accounting Manager reporting to Cindy Patterson. Scott has 8 years accounting experience most recently with Tyson Foods where he managed an accounting staff.
- Grain deliveries will begin this month to commission the two 500,000 bushel silos. We plan to bring corn into the plant from October 15<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup>. The silos need to settle for 30 days prior to grind. Check with Chuck Peterson (712-352-5008) or Kristan Barta (712-352-5010) for delivery details.
- We continue to entertain institutional investor prospects to replace our bridge loan. In addition, we have submitted an application for a tax-exempt solid waste bond with the state finance authority. We also plan to offer additional Series A equity later this fall. Our legal firm, Husch Blackwell, is working on the details.
- The entire operations staff reported for duty on October 6<sup>th</sup>. They will undergo 10 weeks of training including a trip to Green Plains in Shenandoah, IA for hands-on training. We have a great group.
- ***Our new mailing address is: 10868 189<sup>th</sup> Street, Council Bluffs, IA 51503. The main phone number will remain the same.***

As always, please contact me directly at (712) 366-0392 if you have any issues or concerns regarding the project.

Mark Drake

## SIRE Newsletter – Volume II Issue 7

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