

Ohio breaks ground on second ethanol plant this month

Published on 01/31/2006

CADIZ -- Officials broke ground this week on a new ethanol plant that is expected to create 107 on-site jobs and 60 contract jobs. It was the second groundbreaking this month for an Ohio ethanol plant. Gov. Bob Taft attended Monday's groundbreaking of Harrison Ethanol, which will have a \$7.2 million payroll and is expected to pump \$85 million in annual cash flow to the region. The plant has received all necessary permits, and construction is expected to begin in April, said Dwayne Siekman, executive director of the Ohio Corn Growers Association. The plant is expected to begin producing ethanol in early 2007, Siekman said today.

On Jan. 20, officials broke ground on an ethanol production facility in Fayette County. The plant being developed by ASAlliances Biofuels is expected to create 58 jobs, produce more than 100 million gallons of ethanol annually and use 40 million bushels of corn per year. Construction is expected to start later this month and operations begin in mid 2007.

Three other ethanol plants are in the planning stages in Allen, Coshocton and Defiance counties, Siekman said.

The new ethanol plants confirm Ohio's strength as an agricultural state and reaffirm the state's commitment to renewable energy sources, Taft said.

"My administration is moving forward with Ohio's commitment to biofuels, reducing our dependence on foreign oil, decreasing emissions and increasing opportunities for the Ohio biofuel and farm industry," Taft said.

During a 2004 trip to Japan and Taiwan, Taft and Harrison Ethanol representatives met with potential investors for the project. Partly as a result of the meeting, Itochu International, Inc., became the company's first Japanese investor.

The Taft administration has been working to boost the ethanol industry by:

- Streamlining the process for potential ethanol plants to deal with the state.

- Signing into law Senate Bill 144, which created the Ethanol Incentive Board and

made ethanol plants eligible for Ohio Air Quality Development Authority financing.

- Directing the Ohio Department of Transportation last year to use at least 1 million gallons of bio-diesel fuel and 30,000 gallons of ethanol per year and to purchase only new cars that are able to run on

both unleaded fuel and ethanol.

[Top of Page](#)