

AP

East Coast Ethanol plans 4 Southeast plants

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East Coast Ethanol to build 4 ethanol plants in Southeast region

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) -- East Coast Ethanol LLC said Monday it will build four corn-based ethanol plants in the Southeast to supply the region with the alternative fuel.

The South Carolina-based company said the 110-million-gallon-per-year plants will be built in Jesup, Ga., Campbellton, Fla., Chester, S.C. and Jackson, N.C.

The plants are part of an \$871 million investment by East Coast Ethanol, which was formed in September 2007 when Atlantic Ethanol LLC, Mid-Atlantic Ethanol LLC, Florida Ethanol LLC and Palmetto Agri-Fuels LLC consolidated into a single company.



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East Coast Ethanol, LLC will become Biggest Supplier to Southeast U.S.
Four Ethanol Plants to be Constructed in NC, SC, GA and FL

Oct. 14, 2008 - East Coast Ethanol, LLC (ECE), which plans to build four corn-based fuel ethanol plants, announced today that it will construct plants in Northampton Co., NC; Chester Co., SC; Wayne Co., GA; and Jackson Co., FL. The firm said that its \$871 million investment would make it the foremost supplier of ethanol to the Southeast U.S. market.

With a nameplate production capacity of 440 million gallons of ethanol per year, ECE will become the sixth largest ethanol producer in the U.S. According to the latest figures released by the Energy Information Administration, the Southeast ethanol market demand is estimated at 2.1 billion gallons per year of an E-10 ethanol blend (10% ethanol and 90% gasoline).

When the four plants are operating, ECE will become the leading producer of ethanol and its co-products on the East Coast. In addition to producing 110 million gallons of ethanol, each of the four plants will also produce 353,000 tons of distillers dried grains, a high-protein, high-energy animal feed supplement, which will be marketed to the dairy, beef, swine, and poultry industry. In the future, carbon dioxide (CO₂)

produced in the manufacture of ethanol will become another source of revenue from the plant. CO₂ is used in both liquid and solid forms as refrigerants and in the food industry.

NC: The \$212 million plant will be located on 414 acres of land in Northampton County, just west of Seaboard, NC.

SC: The \$230 million plant will be located on 319 acres of land in Chester County, just southwest of Chester, SC on Beltline Rd.

GA: The \$216 million plant will be located on 350 acres of land in Wayne County, just southeast of Jesup, GA.

FL: The \$212 million plant will be located on 296 acres of land in Jackson County, just southwest of Campbellton, FL

Construction of the plants is to begin in the spring of 2009. It is expected that the plant construction will take 18 to 22 months, therefore, the plant is projected to begin operations in 2010. Each of the plants will initially have a workforce of more than 40 employees. The U.S.-based firm will generate more than \$400 million annually to the local economies where the four plants are located.

ECE will need approximately 40 million bushels of corn to produce 110 million gallons of ethanol at each plant per year. To meet their production requirements, ECE will buy corn grown in the Southeast, but will have to ship in the majority of its corn from the Eastern corn belt.

While the use of cellulosic feed stocks in the manufacture of ethanol is being tested, the technology is not presently available on a commercially scalable basis. ECE intends to enter the cellulosic ethanol business once that technology becomes economically viable.

ECE was founded in Aug. 2007 as a result of a merger of four entities—Mid-Atlantic Ethanol, LLC, Palmetto Agri-Fuels, LLC, Atlantic Ethanol, LLC, and Florida Ethanol, LLC—which were each in the process of developing a 110-million-gallon, corn-based ethanol plant in the four states.

Fagen, Inc. will design and build all four of the ECE plant facilities. Fagen will partner with Industry Consulting & Marketing, Inc. (ICM) to provide ECE with the most efficient processes and equipment available to the ethanol industry. Combined, Fagen and ICM have been responsible for developing over 60 percent of the plants built or currently under construction in the U.S.

Since its inception, ECE's 120 seed investors have invested \$9.8 million in the project. More than two-thirds of the ECE investors in the four-state area are involved in farming and the agribusiness industry and/or are small business owners.

Just recently, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission granted ECE a declaration of effectiveness of its registration statement. ECE can therefore accept funds from local, state, national, and international investors to become shareholders in the four-state venture.

Additional information about East Coast Ethanol, LLC, or a copy of the company prospectus, can be found on the company's website at www.eastcoastethanol.us. The company's registration statement can also be viewed by visiting EDGAR on the Securities and Exchange Commission website at www.sec.gov.