

## News Release

Date: 1 December, 2005

Patriot Renewable Fuels, LLC  
137 S State St  
Geneseo, IL 61254

Patriot Renewable Fuels, LLC's President, Gene Griffith, announced today Patriot is developing a plan to build a 100 million gallon gas fired, fuel ethanol plant at a site, where it has obtained real estate options at Annawan, IL. The 140 acre site is located two miles east of the city between US Highway 6 and Interstate 80.

Ethanol is a home grown alcohol based fuel additive for gasoline. It is used to stretch fossil fuel supplies, enhance octane levels, and reduce harmful tailpipe emissions. Patriot was formed in January, 2005, by area business leaders, to analyze the potential for, and develop a plan to locate a 50 million gallon plant in western Illinois. Earlier last month Griffith announced Patriot's plan had grown to 100 million gallons because the larger plant is more efficient.

Patriot's goal, according to Griffith, is to become a leading supplier of renewable fuels. It is looking at other possible markets, including additional ethanol plant locations, and other renewable fuels.

The plant when constructed is expected to use approximately 37 million bushels of corn as its primary feedstock. It will also produce 320,000 tons of Distillers Dried Grains and Solubles ("DDGS"), a high quality feed for livestock. Primary markets for DDGS includes cattle feedlots located in Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Texas, however, DDGS usage is expected to increase in the pork and poultry markets throughout North America. As more corn is processed domestically, DDGS exports are also expected to increase to meet needs for high quality feeds in expanding markets.

Fagen, Inc. of Granite Falls, Minnesota will design-build the plant utilizing process technology from ICM, of Colwich, Kansas. Fagen is the nation's largest builder of dry grindfuel ethanol plants and presently has three other plants in the planning or construction process in Illinois. A letter of intent to build the plant in west central Illinois was signed in July of this year.

Cost is expected to exceed \$130 million, which makes it one of the largest ventures ever planned for Henry County. Patriot expects preliminary survey and site development work will be completed by early next year. This will include application for required air

permits as well as zoning changes that may be required. Simultaneously, Patriot will continue its work to complete financing arrangements for the project. If all goes well construction could start by the third quarter of 2006 with completion targeted for late 2007. Patriot Renewable Fuels intends to use local products and services both during and after plant construction. When completed, it will employ 40-45 full time employees in high quality jobs. The ethanol plant will offer additional markets for local farmers, feed users, and grain elevators.

Factors in choosing the site included the availability of sufficient corn, interstate highway transportation to Chicago, St. Louis and other metropolitan markets, convenient rail access to local as well as east and west coast markets, on site natural gas availability, competitive electricity prices, location of other corn processing plants, and available economic incentives. Annawan city officials have worked cooperatively with Henry County and the City of Kewanee to extend Enterprise Zone benefits from Kewanee's Enterprise Zone to the planned operation. Earlier this year House Speaker, Dennis Hastert, announced that Annawan would receive \$1.8 million to help develop the industrial park where the plant will be located. These far sighted, long range plans are instrumental in making this site competitive with other western Illinois sites.

Ethanol production is the third largest use of U.S. corn, utilizing 1.26 billion bushels of corn in 2004. This is 11% of the domestic corn crop, and is expected to reach 13% by the end of next year. Today 91 ethanol plants across the U.S. produce 4 billion gallons of ethanol annually. The Renewable Fuels Standard included in the recent Federal Energy Bill mandates that by 2012 ethanol and bio-diesel production will reach a minimum of 7.5 billion gallons annually.

Additional information on ethanol can be found on the following web sites:  
[www.ethanol.org](http://www.ethanol.org) or [www.ethanolrfa.org](http://www.ethanolrfa.org) .