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Published September 22, 2009 09:46 am - Crawford County commissioners say they will support Ernst Conservation Seeds of Meadville's proposed alternative fuels plant.

NEW LOCAL: Green energy project to add more than 10 local jobs

Crawford County commissioners say they will support Ernst Conservation Seeds of Meadville's proposed alternative fuels plant.

The firm wants to develop a plant to convert switchgrass into fuel pellets.

The plant would add between 10 to 12 permanent jobs at Ernst, said Dan Arnett, the firm's biomass coordinator. The firm has approximately 60 full-time employees.

The company already has received word of an \$896,400 state grant toward the project and is trying to secure additional financing from the state.

County commissioners Tuesday agreed to supply letters of support for the project.



Your comment *

Your email address *

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Although the commissioner's move to support this project is admirable, the 10 to 12 permanent jobs it might create will not make up for the closed child care facilities and lost jobs that have resulted in their failure to address their D.P.W. contract. Alternative fuels are great but the commissioners need to look at what fuels the Crawford County economy. This week marks the second month of NO reimbursement for child care services rendered to low income working families. Without child care, jobs go unfilled and there are no funds to buy any type of fuels. Are we missing the forest for the trees? I think so!
Posting date 9/23/2009 3:52 AM
Posted by Unpaid, out of work child care supervisor

WOW, that's a lot of cash to give away to one business. It will be interesting to see where ALL the funding comes from, as some grants must be matched with local, personal, &/or federal funds. We thought that corn was the answer but it looks like the oil companies & government killed those plans to help out the American farmers. This sounds like a great attempt to be free of foreign imports. Good Luck!!!
Posting date 9/23/2009 12:14 PM
Posted by Supporter of American Farmers

might be a good idea, as long as we dont start talking about using corn for fuel again, any one that thinks corn that is a food should every be used for

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fuel is crazy. food already cost enough.
Posting date 9/24/2009 7:58 AM
Posted by larry

Why aren't we looking into importing some of those cars from Brazil that run on a sugarcane byproduct that cost five cents a gallon? What did Brazil do to warrant our oversight of their economy???
Posting date 9/24/2009 12:03 PM
Posted by Oil Alternative Advocate

i sent a comment in ,but the tribune must only put in what they want to hear. so much for free speech
Posting date 9/24/2009 5:35 PM
Posted by andy kosturick

ANDY: Ditto!!!
 You'd be suprized at what DOESN'T appear. With an absence of slander & fowl language, I'm not sure who continues to cull the comments or why. Keep trying.
Posting date 9/25/2009 3:31 AM
Posted by Oppressed Opinion Submitter

I have family in Brazil and spend quite a bit of time there. I am unaware of any vehicles that run on sugarcane byproducts costing 5 cents/gallon. Can you provide info on where I can learn about these vehicles, Oil Alternative Advocate? Thanks!
Posting date 9/26/2009 9:43 PM
Posted by biofuel supporter

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