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Contact: Mark Derowitsch, Public Relations Account Executive, Bailey Lauerman, 1248 O Street, Suite 900, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-1460
Tel (402) 479-0220, Fax (402) 475-5115

GROUNDBREAKING HELD FOR ETHANOL PLANT IN FAIRMONT

Fairmont (Neb.) – An official groundbreaking ceremony for Nebraska’s first 100 million gallon ethanol facility will be held Friday, December 2, at the American Legion Hall. Advanced BioEnergy, LLC will build the \$132 million ethanol facility one mile south of Fairmont on Highway 81.

The groundbreaking ceremony will begin at 1:30 p.m. Several State and local dignitaries are scheduled to attend the event.

Revis Stephenson, chairman of the Nebraska-based Advanced BioEnergy, said construction will begin in the spring of 2006, and that the plant should be completed by 2007.

“This was an easy decision to build the state’s first ethanol facility with the capacity to produce 100 million gallons on an annual basis,” Stephenson said. “Fillmore and the surrounding counties have an abundant supply of corn, and the location is perfect when you consider the transportation needs of an ethanol facility. This is a great fit, not only for Advanced BioEnergy, but also for Fairmont and Fillmore County.”

Advanced BioEnergy will employ 45 people for its ethanol facility in Fairmont. The facility will use about 36 million bushels of Nebraska-grown corn annually. Once it is fully operational, Advanced BioEnergy will be the largest dry mill facility in the state.

“This ethanol plant will add jobs not only to our community, but to the people in surrounding areas as well,” said Alan Emshoff, President of the Fillmore County Development Corporation board of directors. “Our goal is to strengthen the economic health and agricultural interests in Fillmore County, and this new business venture is aligned with our strategic goals.”

Lt. Governor Rick Sheehy will deliver the keynote speech during the official groundbreaking ceremony. Brian Wilcox of the American Coalition of Ethanol and Stephenson will also attend.

“The benefits an ethanol facility brings to an agriculture-based community are tremendous,” said Dennis Kimbrough, Chairman of the Fillmore County Board of

Supervisors. “Advanced BioEnergy will not only provide jobs for area citizens, it will provide another market for area farmers during harvest time. This facility will give our local economy a shot in the arm.”

Advanced BioEnergy’s ethanol facility will be powered by electricity provided by Perennial Public Power District.

“We’re excited to be Advanced BioEnergy’s electrical power supplier, and we’re looking forward to working with them to deliver low-cost energy to their plant,” said Jamey Pankoke, general manager of Perennial Public Power District. “At the same time, the infrastructure we build for the facility will help the electrical system in the entire area.”

Fagen Inc. of Granite Falls, Minn., a leader in the development of ethanol plants in the United States, will serve as the designer and builder of the Fairmont ethanol plant.