

NEWS RELEASE
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June 28, 2023

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Gothenburg Fertilizer Plant a Key Piece in Midcontinent Hydrogen Hub Plans

Zero-emissions plant to create jobs, reduce agriculture costs

Gothenburg, NE — A Nebraska-based startup is developing a new fertilizer production facility that will be in Gothenburg. This domestic supply will reduce costs for farmers in the region and produce "zero-carbon" ammonia.

The Meadowlark Project took several years to develop and is at an advanced stage. JWC Gburg, LLC has secured a building site, key engineering and technology contracts, green electricity supply, liquified CO₂, and wastewater input sources.

Initial project financing was secured in 2021, with rounds of grant, equity, debt, and tax incentives on the immediate horizon, including participating in the Nebraska, Iowa, and Missouri joint "Midcontinent Hydrogen Hub" application to the Department of Energy (DOE).

"The Meadowlark Project builds on Nebraska's long tradition of innovation in agriculture. This project will more sustainably produce high-quality fertilizer right here in our state, reducing our reliance on foreign imports and transportation delays," said Governor Jim Pillen. "This plant comes at a critical time for us to add high-paying jobs and lower farmers' costs in this region of our State."

The plant will achieve net negative emissions through a zero-carbon production process that utilizes liquified CO₂, reduces transportation-generated emissions from current import requirements, and produces emissions-reducing fuel additives as a byproduct.

"The excitement around this project is palpable and it is particularly rewarding to experience cooperation and support from many different sources," said JWC Gburg co-founder Joshua Westling. "The Governor and the State of Nebraska, our Federal, state and local elected officials, and utility company leadership, just to name a few, have all provided support necessary for this project to become a reality."

The \$750 million project has planned nameplate capacity of 350,000 tons per year of urea ammonia nitrate (UAN) and 140,000 tons per year of ammonium thiosulfate (ATS), critical to agriculture in the Corn Belt region.

JWC Gburg, LLC, based in Nebraska, was started in 2020 by former executives in the fertilizer industry, Joshua Westling and Chris Hayhurst.