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Project Summary/Abstract

Project Title: Herd Co. Wheeler County Feedlot Renewable Biomass Waste to Energy Production Facility		
Project Director: Case Gabel, Feedlot Manager and Christopher Klesch, Project Manager		
Street: 83973 489 th Avenue		
City: Bartlett	State: NE	Zip/Postal Code: 68622-3018
Phone: 303-834-1112	Ext. 11	Email: cklesch@kingstonllc.com

NEO ADV RENEW. PROJECT SUMMARY/ABSTRACT

Throughout Nebraska, feedlot operators are faced with rising energy and operating costs that threaten the long term sustainability of their industry. Combined with new focuses on improved measures to dispose of animal wastes in a more environmentally sound fashion, these increasing costs threaten the feedlot operators' way of life.

The proposed Herd Co. Wheeler County Feedlot Renewable Biomass Waste to Energy Production Facility will demonstrate a commercially viable and innovative biomass gasification technology. Headquartered in Bartlett, Nebraska and operated by the May Family, the Herd Co. feedlot has approximately 70,000 head of cattle. Utilizing this technology in a feedlot setting will reduce and stabilize the energy costs for one of the region's largest operators, demonstrate a Nebraska produced biomass feedstock capable of supplying clean energy through gasification of biomass waste, and launch biomass energy toward a major agricultural role throughout Nebraska by removing the perceived barriers of technology, economics, and risk. In addition, it will establish technical and economic benchmarks needed to procure additional private sector financing and operator interest to allow future project replication within Nebraska and create economic development within the State.

This project will utilize cattle manure in a state of the art, combination gasification / boiler / electric generation system, providing a cost effective, environmentally-friendly solution that converts over 8,000 tons each year of noxious and harmful waste product into renewable "green" energy. In addition, compared to land spreading or composting, gasification eliminates the release of greenhouse gases, like methane, which has 23 times the global warming impact as an equivalent amount of carbon dioxide.

