

NEWS



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Bioenergy Center to Select New Ethanol Partner

Hays, KS—September 25—Sunflower Electric Power Corporation announced today that The Scoular Company, based in Omaha, will not build a 100 million gallon-per-year ethanol plant in the Sunflower Integrated Bioenergy Center complex located south of Holcomb, Kansas.

Clare Gustin, Sunflower's vice president member services and external affairs, said the decision to halt discussions was mutual.

She said, "We have enjoyed our work together, but believe it is in everyone's best interest for Scoular to find a different site that more closely meets their needs."

Randy Hellerich, Scoular's, Director, Renewable Fuels Development, said, "This is a great project, but the integrated nature of the bioenergy center created unique project development challenges that we were unable to overcome."

Gustin said the Sunflower Integrated Bioenergy Center will continue to develop the center based on a cooperative philosophy that allows sub-systems to benefit from co-location and shared outputs. "We are working with other groups that have the capacity to develop a project that follows the integration philosophy."

"Changes like this do not come as a surprise—especially when we are working on an innovative project like this," she added.

About Sunflower Integrated Bioenergy Center (SIBC)—

The SIBC project is being developed by Sunflower Integrated Bioenergy, LLC a joint venture between NISTAC and Sunflower Electric Power Corporation with support from the Kansas Bioscience Authority. The SIBC, when completed, will be a unique and leading edge facility for the production of various biofuel and agricultural products in a highly integrated facility to be located near Holcomb Kansas.

About NISTAC—

The National Institute for Strategic Technology Acquisition and Commercialization (NISTAC) is a not-for-profit organization which works to

commercialize technology in Kansas and around the country through intellectual property derived from Kansas State University, a donated corporate patent portfolio, and through joint venture activities with private industry. Founded in 1994, NISTAC was organized under the auspices of Kansas State University (K-State) and the State of Kansas via the Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation (KTEC).

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About Sunflower—

Sunflower Electric Power Corporation is a regional wholesale power supplier that operates a 1,203 MW system of wind, gas, and coal-based generating plants and a 2,300-mile transmission system for the needs of its six member cooperatives who serve more than 124,000 customers living in central and western Kansas. Visit Sunflower's website at <http://www.sunflower.net>

Sunflower's member cooperatives include Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Dighton; Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Ulysses; Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Norton; Victory Electric Cooperative Association, Dodge City; Western Cooperative Electric Association, WaKeeney; and Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Scott City, Kansas.

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