Company Plans to Open Biodiesel Plant in SE Nebraska

(KTNC) -- Plans are being announced to open a bio-diesel plant in southeast Nebraska where construction was finished in 2008 but operations were never launched.

Michael Harris, a bio-fuels manager with Flint Hills Resources, says they've purchased the former Beatrice Biodiesel plant. He says they plan to retrofit the plant to produce about 50-million gallons of biodiesel fuel a year and employ 44 people.

The plant will be known as Duonix Beatrice and is a joint venture between Flint Hills and Benefuel Incorporated.

Harris says the new plant will make a blend of bio-diesel that has a lower sulfur output and it should be cost-effective.

Harris says the plant should not produce any significant odor and he says bio-diesel is not flammable like gasoline or jet fuel, so it's less hazardous. He says the plant will use truck and rail transportation to ship raw materials and products.

The goal is to begin operations in mid-2015.

Nebraska Radio Network