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Wind energy manufacturer selects Newton for new facility

NEWTON – Newton’s Kansas Logistics Park has announced its first major manufacturing partner.

Tindall Corp., headquartered in Spartanburg, S.C., plans to construct a new facility to manufacture concrete base systems for wind turbines that will enable the towers to be extended to optimal heights for maximum power generation. It was not previously economically feasible to construct conventional steel towers to these heights.

Plans call for a 150,000- to 200,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility for this product, with a total capital investment of approximately \$66 million.

“This is an incredible announcement for Newton,” Mayor Racquel Thiesen said. “This company will be a huge benefit to our community and the entire region. And we know this is only the beginning for the Logistics Park.”

The new facility is projected to employ 200 people by the end of the first year of operations, at an estimated annual payroll (including benefits) of \$11 million. Employment is projected to reach 405 people at an annual payroll of \$21 million by the end of the third year.

The project represents a strong collaborative effort by the City of Newton, Harvey County Economic Development Council and the State of Kansas.

“Today’s announcement that another renowned company has chosen Kansas for a new renewable energy manufacturing facility is great news for the entire state,” Gov. Mark Parkinson said. “Tindall is an excellent company that will bring hundreds of good-paying jobs to Harvey County and facilitate Kansas’ wind energy potential. This news is also further evidence that our state’s investment in high-quality infrastructure pays off. Companies of this magnitude look

closely at the quality of our roads and rail systems, schools and worker training programs. To continue to attract companies like Tindall to Kansas, it is important that we invest in areas that drive business development.”

Tindall is one of the largest privately held pre-cast manufacturing companies in the United States, with facilities throughout the South and Mid-Atlantic region. The company had reviewed sites throughout the Midwest for the new facility.

Mickey Fornaro-Dean, executive director of the Harvey County Economic Development Council, said, “We are extremely honored that the Kansas Logistics Park is the site chosen by Tindall Corp. to manufacture the Atlas CTB tower base systems. The caliber of jobs and investment that this company will bring to our community will be a catalyst in continuing to develop Newton and Harvey County in the years to come.”

Tindall is currently securing patents for its tower base system and obtaining certification from a leading German design firm that provides certifications for most of the wind turbines and towers built throughout the world. When this process is complete, Tindall anticipates this will be a high-volume product line for the company.

As part of Tindall’s agreement with the City, the first 100 acres of a 144-acre site will be provided to Tindall at no cost, with the remaining acreage to be sold to the company at \$8,000 an acre. Tindall will provide an earnest money payment of \$100,000.

Other accommodations and incentives, both at the local and state level, are being developed and are to be completed prior to a closing on the land.

The Kansas Logistics Park is located between interstates 35 and 135 and provides access to two Class 1 rail carriers as well as the Watco short-line railroads. The central location enables original equipment manufacturers and suppliers to minimize the burden of supplying large components into the heart of the nation’s wind resources.

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