



Big River The Value Adder Resources

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*Alternate

Scheduled Plant Shutdown Successful

The plant performed a scheduled shutdown on March 22-23 to satisfy a number of important inspection, maintenance, and cleaning issues. The 2-day procedure is typically done in the early spring and again in late fall in order to avoid the extreme cold temperatures in the winter. Certain critical points in the plant must be examined on a semi-annual basis.

The next scheduled shutdown will be in the late fall, and based on the results of this shutdown, it may only be for one day. During the normal operation of the plant, a "shutdown list" is built as time goes along. Some of the items on the list can be accomplished during unscheduled down time, whereas other list entries must wait for a scheduled shutdown. Additionally, there were some warranty issues and unforeseen bottlenecks that were taken care of during this shutdown.

There are 3 major areas of interest to consider during a shutdown: pressure tanks, centrifuges, and evaporators. The main pressure vessel is the boiler and state law requires an annual inspection. The four centrifuges have a required annual maintenance, and our centrifuges were defined as being in "great" condition due to the current plant maintenance program. It was noted that the yearly inspection could be extended to 18 months which would translate into a significant cost savings to BRR. The annual cleaning of the evaporators also had some positive news, as only two of the eight had plugged tubes.

In addition to the "main" issues discussed above, a variety of other tasks were accomplished. This list would include cleaning the dryer duct work, which is like cleaning the soot out of your chimney. Other tasks included replacing a drag conveyor, repairing TO "hotspots", altering the syrup line configuration and adding a meter to that line. A whole host of other updates and improvements were accomplished.

Several extra people are on site for a scheduled shutdown. There were at least 35 additional folks, in addition to our staff putting in many extra hours, to make all of this work within the desired time frame. Both Fagen and ICM play a very important role in supplying personnel for these critical times.

Continued on Page 2 . . .

General Manager Notes



Hello from Big River Resources! Spring has arrived and activity at the plant continues at a hectic pace. Our employee team continues to operate the plant at 125% of name plate capacity producing at an annual denatured rate of 50 million gallons. Our employees continue to grow in their knowledge and experience as we have completed a full year of operations. Thank you to

the Big River Team for working hard to achieve this high level of performance. We greatly appreciate the investors, Cooperative and LLC Boards in providing the opportunity and support needed to bring this all about.

The past two months have included progress on several key issues at the Big River facility. On May 24, a silencer was installed to address sound abatement issues. This action together with a hammer mill room sound absorption project to be completed in early June should help alleviate concerns from local neighbors. We are currently working on acquisition of a grain facility located in Monmouth, Illinois. This facility will be operated as a full service elevator and provide support as a complementary business to the Big River Ethanol plant in the area of corn procurement. These projects along with the review of opportunities for future growth will keep us working hard to grow your investment.

We have four new employees to welcome in this newsletter: Robbie Sink who joined the Big River team as a D and E Operator, James Cook as a D and E Operator, William Hulse as a Cook Operator and Stephen Brown as a Cook Operator. With these additions, we have returned to a full staff level.

As always, we have an open door policy here at Big River Resources. Please feel free to stop by and visit with the staff and myself at any time. We are always looking for opportunities to better serve your needs as members.

Jim Leiting

Scheduled Plant Shutdown Successful Cont . . .

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Even though some of the work performed was within the one year warranty period, there are still significant costs associated with these shutdowns. For example, the evaporator cleaning bill was about 35K and the plant maintenance on the centrifuges was between 35 and 40K!

To summarize, our plant has been down for an approximate total of only 8 days during the first full year of operation, including the scheduled downtime discussed above. This is an outstanding record as the average for a plant of our size is 12 days. Our staff is to be commended!

-Stan Janson and Larry Unkrich

Outstanding Efforts

During ongoing stages of completing miscellaneous projects, Big River Resources tries to utilize its resources. In the month of April, Ken Polson made use of his construction skills discrete around the poured 100 yards three weeks with temp employees. of Mr. Polson's



prior construction skills discrete around the poured 100 yards three weeks with temp employees. of Mr. Polson's company saved around 20,000 dollars! Ken has worked as a Material Handler at Big River Resources since November of 2004. He lives in Burlington with his wife and son. Outstanding work Ken, Thanks!

Monmouth Grain & Dryer Grain Elevator Purchase

The Big River Resources LLC board has agreed to purchase the Monmouth Grain & Dryer Facilities in Monmouth, IL. The final transfer will not take place until late in August of 2005, but the terms and conditions have been tentatively agreed upon. The purchase will give BRR an enhanced presence in West Central Illinois, where many investors of BRR are located. The reasoning behind this purchase is three-fold: the price was favorable, as the facility was desired by several prospective bidders; BRR can take advantage of the storage capacity in managing its corn requirements during times of low production and high corn prices; and finally, it establishes a new corn origination point for the plant.

The facility has been a fixture in the Monmouth community for many decades and is well respected. It encompasses three locations, all of which will be maintained, in order that the current customer base continues to be adequately served. The total capacity is in excess of 4 million bushels and rail access is on site. The present employee staff will remain, as well as the existing customer services. It is felt this purchase will solidify BRR as a strong marketing option in West Central Illinois not only now, but well into the future.

-Larry Unkrich

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Grain Information

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Mission Statement

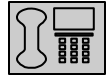
To improve and stabilize the agricultural economic resources of the multi-state region by establishing corn based ethanol as the premier renewable fuel.

Join us on the Web!

www.bigriverresources.com

*** WE NOW HAVE A 1-800 NUMBER ***

1-800-463-9850



New Construction

BRR is currently taking bids on a new building at the site. As we have worked our way through the first year it is clear we have a space problem. In the initial design there was an area in the process building for both spare parts storage and a "shop" work area. However, due to some unforeseen problems peculiar to our plant, this area has been partially absorbed and thus we are short on both storage and working shop space. The plant is presently renting an off site facility for storage which is fine for a temporary fix, but not a long term solution.

The plans currently being solicited are for a building that is 80' x 150' with an insulated shop in one end that would be about 5000 square feet. The bidders have been requested to include insulation of the shop area, and include concrete throughout. Additionally, there are other specifics regarding overhead doors, windows, walk-ins, insulation, etc. Several competitive bids have

been received and a decision is expected soon so that construction can be completed before "the snow flies"!

Welcome Aboard . . . New Grain Merchandiser



We would like to introduce you to Jim Hansen. Jim started in April. Previously, he was at Farmers Coop Association, Ainsworth, Iowa for over 21 years. During that time, he served as a Feed Manager, General Manager, and Grain Merchandiser. Prior to that, he was in feed sales with Nutrena Feeds, and farmed four years in West Central Iowa.

Another very important consideration is building placement. The placement should not interfere with any expansion plans or existing underground layout. It also should comply with present environmental and insurance regulations. Also, the placement should be convenient and handy for those who use it on a daily basis! Two locations possible fit the criteria; one west of the scales and the other between the administration building and the tank farm.

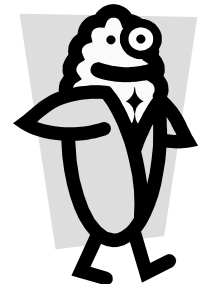
-Larry Unkrich

Kernel Affairs

We would like to thank everyone for your help and patience. BRR is getting enough corn that we have had to close corn deliveries either one half or a full day a week.

Reminders:

- Deliver your corn in the correctly sold timeframe.
- Make certain your trucker knows if your corn is contracted and/or committed bushels. To get all of the committed bushels paperwork correct, we need you to let us know if they are committed bushels.
- Return paperwork with your intentions of pooling or delivering for each trimester.



In July, we will be sending out a delivery schedules and pool/delivery questionnaires for 2005-2006 committed bushels. We will need these back by August 15, 2005. Thank you for your help and support.

-Jim Hansen

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Ethanol Energy For The Future