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Residents Invited to Tour New Biodiesel Plant at Sanimax Open House

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DeForest, Wis. – Residents are invited to see the future of renewable energy firsthand at a community open house Sept. 18 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Sanimax Biodiesel Plant and Restaurant Services Facility, 605 Bassett St.

The event will feature tours of Wisconsin's largest biodiesel plant, which processes animal fats and vegetable oils into clean-burning automotive fuel. Tours will also visit the next-door restaurant services facility, which converts restaurant grease and related wastes into useful products.

"We are tremendously excited to be on the cutting edge of renewable energy development right here in DeForest," said Mike Spahn, Leader of Restaurant Operations for Sanimax. "The community has certainly welcomed us, so we invite residents to visit our facilities and see close up how we are creating fuels and other consumer goods from materials that previously would have been considered waste."

Tours will be conducted throughout the afternoon. Informative displays and plant personnel will be on hand to answer questions and explain operations at the facilities. Refreshments will be served.

Parking for the open house will be available on site and on surrounding streets. Because the Sanimax facilities are industrial in nature, attendees are asked to wear appropriate footwear and avoid open-toe shoes. The plant tours are not suitable for small children.

"We are thrilled to be part of the DeForest community," Spahn said. "Given all the debate and questions about our nation's energy future, we want our neighbors to know that a key part of the long-term solution is being produced right in their backyard."

The Sanimax Biodiesel Plant began operations in March 2007 and will produce 20 million gallons of biodiesel per year at full capacity. With operations in the United States and Canada, Sanimax is an international leader in creating environmentally responsible solutions for the food and agribusiness industries. Residents interested in attending the open house are asked to RSVP at xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.