

GREENFIELD: ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE JOBS

WHAT MAKES GREENFIELD DIFFERENT?

For decades, communities like Wallace have had to sacrifice their health and their environment for jobs and economic opportunity.

The Greenfield Grain Export Facility will break with the past.

Instead of heavy-polluting industry or low-paying commercial development, the West Bank will soon be home to a green agricultural business with good-paying jobs. The Grain Export Facility will be a low-emission site used for grain storage and river transport, with no on-site production, refining or manufacturing.

Greenfield will be the cleanest grain export facility in North America. It has been designed to outperform both current and future environmental standards.

WILL THE FACILITY AFFECT OUR AIR QUALITY?

Greenfield is not a processing, refining or manufacturing facility. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has issued the proposed facility a “Minor Source Permit” because of its minimal impact. The facility has an extremely small environmental footprint—far less than even the current sugarcane farming happening on the site.

For generations, this part of the West Bank has been farmed for sugar cane. And each year, as the fields are burned before harvesting, harmful pollutants are released into the air and nearby waterways. Greenfield’s permitted emissions for PM10 and PM2.5—two harmful, carcinogenic pollutants—are significantly lower than the current emissions from the 470 acres now farmed for sugar cane at the site.

That’s right—Greenfield will mean less air pollution, not more.

The primary source of emissions at the new facility will be emergency generator engines and grain dryers, none of which will produce ambient concentrations above Louisiana Ambient Air Standards.

GREENFIELD: STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY

HOW WILL THE FACILITY AFFECT NEARBY GROUNDWATER, RIVERS AND LAKES?

The Grain Export Facility has been sited and designed to avoid affecting nearby waterways and water quality.

Because it is not a manufacturing facility, Greenfield won't require large volumes of water for process cooling or production. The site's water use will be relatively low. No groundwater will be tapped for use at the facility, conserving this valuable resource. Greenfield plans to receive water directly from the parish water system for sanitary purposes.

Greenfield has received a Coastal Use Permit that determined "no direct or significant impact." The facility's plans will deepen and widen drainage at the site, helping reduce water runoff. As part of permitting efforts, Greenfield had studies conducted that demonstrated the new facility's construction will lower the total suspended solids flowing into nearby Lac Des Allemandes by about 12 percent.

WHAT ABOUT GRAIN DUST?

Greenfield is serious about grain dust. Grain dust isn't a pollutant, but if not properly controlled, it can have health impacts on people with conditions like asthma. At older grain elevators, dust often escapes during loading and unloading.

GREENFIELD WILL BE DIFFERENT.

It will be the first new grain export facility built in the region in more than 50 years, and technology has come a long way in that time.

The facility will use state-of-the-art equipment including:

- Dust aspirators that filter air at every transfer point
- Fully-enclosed conveyor belts that prevent dust from escaping when transporting grain
- Widened and reduced-speed barge unloaders that minimize escaping dust
- "Cascade Shiploader" spouts that slow and control the flow of the grain, eliminating the largest causes of dust emissions in loading ships: grain free-falling from a height and bouncing off hard surfaces at high-velocity
- Digital sensors that continuously monitor aspiration systems
- No-entry, self-cleaning silos