BorgWarner, SC make expansion deal official

BY MIKE EADS
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SENECA — More production and more jobs are in the works for BorgWarner's Seneca facility, thanks to incentives from state and county officials to fund its expansion.

As reported by The Journal in early April, the Michigan-based automotive manufacturer plans to add 30 new jobs to its drive train facility, located at 15545 Wells Hwy., thanks to a Fee-in-Lieu-of-Tax (FILOT) deal with Oconee County.

"The expansion of BorgWarner gives us confidence that Oconee County remains a ripe environment for business to flourish," said Oconee County Council Chairman Joel Thrift. "We applaud BorgWarner's success and are thankful for the job creation and capital investment that our community will receive."

BorgWarner officials appear just as pleased with the deal.

"We are pleased to move forward with our expansion plans in Oconee County. Demand for our products has increased and South Carolina has provided us with an excellent business environment, so this expansion is the right step for our company. We appreciate all the support we've received from state and local officials," said Andy J. Mickus, general manager, BorgWarner TorqTransfer Systems North America.

To qualify for the FILOT, which gives BorgWarner property tax breaks for the next several years, the company agrees to invest at least $25 million in new taxable property at the site.

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