New company to start hiring in June

BY CARLOS GALARZA-VEVE
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — Plastic Products Company announced Wednesday that it will be ready next month to begin operating a plastics and injection-molding manufacturing plant that will bring at least 68 new jobs to Oconee County.

State and local officials applauded the company's decision to invest $3.2 million and bring 68 jobs to its new plant off Radio Station Road in Seneca near Lowe's.

The Oconee County Council cleared the way for the announcement after approving a fee-in-lieu-of-tax agreement at its meeting Tuesday night in which Plastic Products committed to investing no less than $2.5 million over the next five years.

Oconee Economic Alliance executive director Richard Blackwell

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said Plastic Products is renovating an empty industrial building to its specifications at a cost of $1 million. Oconee had the support of one of its industrial partners — Johnson Controls — in helping Plastic Products choose Oconee over North Carolina to open its eighth location, and first in South Carolina.

Johnson Controls is one of Plastic Products' major customers, Blackwell said, adding that when all is said and done, the company will employ almost 80 new workers at the Seneca plant.

"We do expect growth in both jobs and investments," Blackwell said, adding that the company is looking to grow its Southeast client base.

County Council chairman Joel Thrift welcomed the new company, adding, "every one of these new jobs will have a positive impact on Oconee County."

"We are excited that Plastic Products Company has chosen to locate in our community," Thrift said.

The good news made its way to Columbia, where Gov. Nikki Haley is running for re-election in November on the strength of economic development gains achieved during her first term.

"We couldn't be more excited to welcome PPC to South Carolina," Haley said in a statement. "Their presence will bring great things to Seneca ... creating 68 new jobs and putting our citizens to work."

The company is expected to begin operations with a small team of existing employees and begin hiring workers for permanent positions in June. Applicants interested in employment with Plastic Products should send their resumes to kimd@plasticproductsco.com.



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Workers continue making improvements to an industrial facility at 199 Keowee Business Parkway in Seneca that will house the operations of Plastic Products Co., which announced Wednesday it will open its new plastics and injection molding manufacturing plant as early as June.

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