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STANDARD BIODIESEL LEADS WASHINGTON STATE IN RECYCLING WASTE VEGETABLE OIL

Standard Biodiesel is the first Washington State firm to produce biodiesel fuel from used restaurant oil on a commercial scale. The capacity of its Arlington plant is 8,000,000 gallons of fuel per year. Standard Biodiesel is one of two certified, licensed biodiesel plants operating in Washington State.

Founder John Wick asserts "Standard Biodiesel is focused on a wide spectrum of sustainability concerns. I started a company dedicated to renewable energy. Some biodiesel producers and distributors make assertions about their commitment to sustainability. We go after it. For example we believe in local feedstocks, local production and local distribution. When our state or region commits to foreign or even out of state feedstock we are moving backwards. That dependence is exactly what we are paying for now in the Middle East."

Broad Participation

In partnership with over 600 of the region's restaurants, Standard turns used oil into fuel. Participating waste oil generators include Children's Hospital, University of Washington, 40 Pike Place Market bistros, Swedish Hospital, Catfish Corner, Angel of the Winds Casino, Benihana, Edgewater Inn, Dragon Fish Asian Cafe, Uwajimaya, Taste at the Seattle Art Museum and many, many more.

Additionally, Standard provides local collection sites for household oil throughout the Puget Sound. People who deep-fry at home now have a place to recycle waste oil into fuel.

Snohomish, King, Pierce, Kitsap, and Island Counties are all covered by Standard waste oil recycling collection routes. The word is spreading among restaurant owners. Standard offers a better deal and a high quality of service.

Practicing What We Preach

When it comes to plant practices, Standard disposes of its production waste in an innovative manner. Our waste streams are fed into an anaerobic digester. This one million gallon "stomach" uses anaerobic decomposition to convert energy into methane gas. The gas drives a generator, which is able to harness biogas into electrical power, which is fed back to the electrical grid.

Standard's production process is fueled by a straight vegetable oil (SVO) furnace. The company plans install a 100KW biodiesel generator by midsummer 2007 to meet all on-site energy requirements.

John Schofield, president of Standard Biodiesel, believes Standard's primary aim is to make high quality, sustainable biodiesel more available to households and individuals in the Puget Sound area. The number one question he hears is "Where can I get it?"

Schofield says, "Washington State is a hot bed of environmentalism and progressive activity. People are eager to do their parts. We are looking for alternatives and answers. Just like buying organic food, using biodiesel is something which may cost a bit more and is worth it?"