



Your Guide TO DOING BUSINESS WITH



West Virginia
Department of Transportation



Volume 34, November 2019

COAL-TO-LIQUID FACILITY TO CREATE HUNDREDS OF JOBS IN MASON COUNTY

A company now has a construction permit to build a "state-of-the-art" coal-to-liquids facility in Mason County expected to create more than 200 jobs.

According to a press release from Domestic Synthetic Fuels (DSF), the company received a permit from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) to build a facility near Point Pleasant.

DSF officials say it will take thousands of workers to build the facility. After construction, the plant will create 130 jobs on site, plus 130 new coal mining jobs to supply the raw materials.

"This will have a tremendous economic impact on our county," stated John Musgrave, executive director of the Mason County Economic Development Authority.

"This will bring jobs and growth to Mason County and the surrounding region."

The facility will turn West Virginia coal and natural gas into ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel, aviation fuel, gasoline, and other products.

DSF is a West Virginia-based company. The plant will be the first of its kind in the United States. The WVDEP issued the permit following a public comment period and public meetings about the project.

"I'd like to thank not just the DEP, but the community for coming out and supporting this project," DSF Lead Developer Kevin Whited stated in the announcement.

"They live here. They turned out, and a lot of them spoke in favor of the facility."

Whited said the company expects to break ground on this project this fall and begin accepting job applications in early 2020. They hope to start the hiring process in the second quarter of 2020.

DSF officials say synthetic fuels that come from coal are more ecologically friendly than fuels that come from petroleum.

"DEP officials approved the Domestic Synthetic Fuels facility as a minor source of emissions, meaning emissions from the facility are minimal under federal and state law," the company stated in a press release. "Once up and running, Domestic Synthetic Fuels will take 2,500 tons of coal a day, combine it under heat and pressure with a catalyst and hydrogen derived from natural gas to produce more than 10,000 barrels of fuel a day. The self-contained process also will produce other value-added products that can be sold."

Whited emphasized that the project's potential in the natural gas industry is just as important as the coal industry.

"If you're baking a cake, you need certain ingredients," Whited stated. "You need flour. You need yeast. But one is not more important than the other. You can't leave one out... Natural gas is an essential ingredient."

[Click Here to Read More](#)

About The WVDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on WVDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



About The Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with WVDOT as the statewide provider of the federally funded Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Supportive Services Program. We want to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient. Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority projects.

FMCSA ISSUES \$77 MILLION IN GRANTS SUPPORTING TRUCK SAFETY, DRIVER TRAINING

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration announced more than \$77 million in grants to states and training institutions to improve commercial motor vehicle safety.

The grants, announced Sept. 25, stem from the agency's commitment to working with all of its state and local partners to reduce crashes and improve safety on America's roadways.

"These important grants demonstrate the agency's commitment to providing local areas with the resources they need to make a difference for commercial motor vehicle safety," FMCSA Administrator Ray Martinez said.

The agency is a division of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

"Safety is the department's top priority and these grants will further assist state and local officials in their efforts to prevent commercial motor vehicle crashes," Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao said.

The grants announced fall into three classes:

- High Priority: \$43.3 million to improve states' commercial motor vehicle safety efforts, as well as advance technological capability within states
- Commercial Driver License Program

Implementation: \$32 million to help states improve the national commercial driver license program

- Commercial Motor Vehicle Operator Safety Training: \$2 million to various education institutions to help train veterans for jobs as commercial bus and truck drivers

The High Priority program consists of both commercial motor vehicle grants for safety efforts and Innovative Technology Deployment grants to aid the advancement of intelligent transportation system applications for truck operations.

Recipients of the High Priority program included police divisions, universities and state departments of transportation.

Among them was South Dakota's Department of Transportation, which was awarded \$1.1 million. Spokeswoman Kristi Sandal said the grant will support inspection systems meant to check tires and thermal brakes, as well as upgrades to the Department of Revenue's International Registration Plan and International Fuel Tax Agreement information systems.

[Click Here to Read More](#) ▶

Supportive Services Offered:

- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
- Mobilization Financing
- Bonding Assistance
- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
- Building a Website
- Plan Reading



**Within the past 3 months,
CEI assisted DBEs
in obtaining
\$6 MILLION
IN BONDING!!**

*Contact CEI for Bonding,
Financing or Insurance needs!*

 (800) 423-7058

 www.wvdbesupport.com



CEI is an educational organization providing the highest quality construction training in the industry. Over 100,000 owners, estimators, project managers, field supervisors, office support staff, foremen, laborers, and key management personnel have attended courses that are offered nationwide. The courses provide students with construction skills training and the critical information needed to be effective within their companies and organizations.