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County approves tax abatement for Lakeview Farms

DELPHOS — Food manufacturer Lakeview Farms plans to expand its operations and add employees.

Allen County Commissioners today approved a 10-year, 90% tax abatement with Lakeview Farms LLC. The company will build 100,000-square feet of manufacturing and warehouse space at its current location on 1600 Gressel Drive. The project will lead to the creation of 15 jobs and cost \$24-\$35 million.

The agreement was previously approved by the Delphos City Schools Board of Education and Delphos City Council.

Lakeview Farms started operations in the city in 1988. It has 322 full-time employees with a payroll of \$19.9 million at the local facility. The agreement states the company will retain those positions.

Todd Parker, senior vice president of Lakeview Farms and Project Management Officer, recently told The Lima News that the company's success is due to the employees.

"A lot of the success is due to local people," Parker said. "Our workers tend to be local workers. It has really allowed the success. The hard work and dedication of all the employees at Lakeview Farms have made it possible. We have core values of valuing the employee and providing a safe and good product to our customers. The workforce we have is truly something to be proud of."

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About AEDG: The Allen Economic Development Group is a public/private partnership that was formed in 1993 as a facilitator for countywide economic development. Its mission is to create an environment for new business development, promote and nurture existing business and facilitate the creation of new jobs in Allen County.