

NOTE: *“And for all of you, I just want you to know one thing. I want you to think about me, not because I’m governor, I’m your friend,” Kasich said. “I am your friend and I am committed to you. I am committed to doing what I can to make sure that this part of Ohio really begins to flourish.”*

Portsmouth Daily Times

Echo Environmental operation coming to Pike County

By Frank Lewis



Jackson County business and community leader Alan Stockmeister is bringing a new industry and new jobs to Pike County with the addition of Echo Environmental at the Zahn’s Corner Industrial Park.

“I am honored to be in front of you today to talk about what we’re here for,” Stockmeister said. “This directly affects me because I’m a son of Appalachia and I’m a businessman from Appalachia.”

Stockmeister looked around him and said, “What’s a million square feet look like?” much to the delight of dignitaries present at the announcement.

Stockmeister went through the long line of business ventures his family has been involved in for decades. Stockmeister said the metals business his family has established in Jackson County, and will now extend into Pike County, has become, “near and dear to me.” He said it is his hope that the establishment of the facility at Zahn’s Corner will drive more industry into Ohio.

“We’ve grown that business to become the largest gold and silver recycler in North America,” Bill Leroy, administrator for Stockmeister, said. “We’re not finished yet. We continue to invest in the Jackson facility to the tune of about \$5 million a year in capital expenditures and we will continue to grow that business going forward. We’ve kind of stepped up now and made an even bigger investment, and we think that with the same kind of hard work and the same kind of effort from everybody involved, 10 years from now, we’ll be the largest recycler of electronics.”

“We’re going to process end-of-life electronics, and we’re going to recover copper, be a copper recycler,” Mike Hyman, of Echo Environmental said.

Hyman said the new operation has laid out its plan in three phases over the next ten years.

“On a daily basis here in Waverly, we’re going to take in multiple truckloads of obsolete end-of-life electronics including circuit boards and other discarded electronics,” Hyman said. “So the first phase of the project is to shred them. While we are shredding them, we will attempt to determine their value, and then we’re going to co-mingle the material after we have shredded it into similar materials.”

During the first phase, the company will sell the concentrations. Hyman said that model would continue for the next couple of years, while they erect “an internationally recognized copper smelting facility, the only one of its kind in the United States,” Hyman said.

Hyman said, during the first year, 12 full-time positions will be created not including local security, and 10 to 20 local service providers such as electricians and mechanical fabricators. By 2015, the company will add 100 full-time jobs which Hyman says will cover the complete spectrum of positions within the industry.

“The final phases will include a self-sufficient laboratory and a copper refinery, and they are scheduled for completion in five to 10 years, ultimately utilizing every square foot under roof, creating possibly up to 500 jobs,” Hyman said.

Hyman said the first year, the annual payroll will be approximately \$600,000, and ultimately \$5 million in salaries by the fifth year.

Article continued here: http://www.portsmouth-dailytimes.com/view/full_story/22088436/article-Echo-Environmental-operation-coming-to-Pike-County?instance=search_results

###