

Didion Milling, Inc.
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Ethanol and Community Safety

Ethanol. Yes.

Ethanol and Community Safety

Q: Can an ethanol plant be run safely?

A: Yes, and the ethanol industry has a good track record. One of the industry's major technology providers has worked with more than 50 ethanol plants for over 17 years without a single safety incident reported. Tony Dyer, Insurance Agent for Farmland Ins. Co., states Farmland insures over 30 ethanol plants and has never had a fire or explosion claim.

Didion Milling is committed to designing, building and operating the ethanol plant to be a good neighbor. That means hiring industry experts and using a combination of technology and training to run a safe ethanol plant.

For instance, a computer-controlled system will monitor about 400 points inside and near the plant. An alarm will notify plant workers when something needs attention. In case of power failure, the monitoring and emergency shut-down systems have a battery backup.

Q: What if chemicals spill or leak?

A: The facility is designed to prevent major spills. For instance, the plant's buildings will be connected by an underground duct system. Any chemical spill will flow to a central duct, and the contents will be pumped into a storage container. From there, the chemical will be pumped back into the ethanol processing system and reused.

If ethanol is spilled while loading, the spill will drain into a sump and then will be pumped back into the plant for

reprocessing. The ethanol storage area is designed with a series of dikes and berms to contain spills.

Storage tanks have double floors with sensors in between that are monitored for leaks by computers. Employees will also visually check for leaks daily.

Q: What if there is a fire at the ethanol plant?

A: To reduce the risk of fire, Didion will have an advanced hazard monitoring system which will alert operators and shut down equipment as necessary. To further minimize fire risk, the system is designed to collect and recycle all fumes from the process, storage and loading area.

In the unlikely event of fire in part of the facility, the following systems will be used to contain and extinguish the fire before it can spread and cause harm: Integrated fire suppression system, Sprinkler System, and Water and Steam injection to the dryer and Portable Foaming System.

Didion will keep emergency plans on file with the Wisconsin DNR, Columbia County, and the Village of Cambria. The plans contain information on fire fighting measures, names of employees trained to clean up spills, and chemical handling and storage.

**Thank you for your time. We need your support.
Still have questions? Call 348-5868 and ask for Dow at
ext. 815 or Dale at ext. 816.**