



**Finger Lakes
Regional Economic
Development Council**

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Empire State Development Recognizes Craigs Station Creamery's Success on Its First Anniversary

Plant helping to meet the growing demand for standardized milk and cream in the Northeast

Empire State Development (ESD) today marked the anniversary of Craigs Station Creamery, which was provided tax incentives by ESD to will build a 14,000-square-foot cold milk separation facility in the Town of York. WNY Enterprise LLC dba Craigs Station Creamery, a partnership between Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) and Craigs Station Ventures (CSV), completed the \$12 million project one year ago, creating 11 full time jobs. The project received \$150,000 in Excelsior tax credits from ESD.

“Craigs Station Creamery has helped answer the region’s increasing demand for standardized milk and cream, created by existing dairy processors expanding production capabilities and new processors entering the marketplace,” said Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Howard Zemsky. “Recognizing the importance of Agribusiness in the Upstate economy, we wish the Creamery continued success as it works to help local dairy farmers meet growing milk demands while creating new jobs.”

The plant is located at Noblehurst Farms. The multi-generational family dairy farm in Livingston County is part of CSV, which is owned by eight dairy farms located in Livingston and Wyoming counties. The farms produce approximately 1 million pounds per day of fresh milk per day which is available to the Creamery to process into standardized milk and cream. The idea with cold separation is to process the milk in a way that doesn't strip milk proteins of some of their characteristics, which is desirable particularly for the production of perishable dairy products such as yogurt and cheese. The centralized location of the plant also results in savings on hauling costs.

The facility is powered with renewable energy from an anaerobic digester; methane gas from manure .is made and collected then used to run an electrical generator. The

electricity from that generator powers both Noblehurst Farms and the Creamery, with any excess sold back to National Grid. In addition, solar panels installed on the roof of the Creamery with assistance from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), help this green-minded business offset natural gas usage.

“Consumers appreciate knowing who produces their food, but they also want their food to be produced in a way that minimizes the impact on the environment,” said Christopher Noble, a dairy farmer with CSV. “This project has met those goals.”

About Craigs Station Ventures

Craigs Station Ventures is comprised of eight family-run dairy farms who manage businesses located throughout western New York. Craigs Station members collectively milk more than 13,000 cows and produce more than 115,000 gallons of high-quality, fresh milk daily.

About Empire State Development Empire State Development (ESD) is New York’s chief economic development agency (www.esd.ny.gov). The mission of ESD is to promote a vigorous and growing economy, encourage the creation of new job and economic opportunities, increase revenues to the State and its municipalities, and achieve stable and diversified local economies. Through the use of loans, grants, tax credits and other forms of financial assistance, ESD strives to enhance private business investment and growth to spur job creation and support prosperous communities across New York State. ESD is also the primary administrative agency overseeing Governor Cuomo’s Regional Economic Development Councils and the marketing of “I Love NY,” the State’s iconic tourism brand. For more information on Regional Councils and Empire State Development, visit www.nyworks.ny.gov and www.esd.ny.gov.

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