## Talking Points For Project Rawhide

## **FACILITIES:**

- 1. As with most economic development announcements we can't tell you the identity of who is behind this project. We can tell you, it is an American owned company that is dedicated to social responsibility.
- 2. This project will create a \$1.2 billion economic impact <u>annually</u>. It will create tax base that will support schools and community services, well paying jobs and diverse opportunities to bring young people back to the farms and rural communities.
- 3. Additional revenue will be generated for businesses in communities such as trucking, construction and agricultural supply firms.
- 4. The facilities, poultry houses, a hatchery, feed mill and processing building will be built with state of the art technologies. The American owned company is committed to minimal impact on the environment and keeping an open line of communication to address neighbor concerns.
- 5. Water will be supplied by Fremont utilities. All wastewater will be contained and piped to the Fremont's municipal sewer system, which will be remodeled to handle the increased capacity.
- 6. There will be a greater need for skilled labor, such as IT, mechanical maintenance and managers. These will be well paying employment opportunities. The 1100 employment opportunities are present in the feed mill, hatchery and processing building.
- 7. Methane gas will be captured, recycled and used as energy in the processing building.

- 8. All parking lots and turning lanes will be paved. (This will reduce any dust issues)
- 9. Bio-security is the number one priority for the company because it not only protects their flocks, but also protects the health of the community. The flocks will be fully enclosed during transit. Employees will be required to follow bio-security measures. At this time, no human infections with these viruses (Avian Influenza) have been detected in the United States (source: CDC)

## **GROWER:**

- 10. The feed mill is not located on a rail, so all feed; corn, soybean meal and micronutrients will be purchased from local farmers and agribusiness.
- 11. Currently, highway 77 is the main transport route for grain in the Northeast Region of Nebraska centered around Fremont. Some of this grain will be used at the feed mill, thus adding value for local farmers instead of leaving the region.
- 12. This project creates opportunities to diversify farms, and bring home the next generation. It also supports young farm families and young people in rural communities. This project provides the opportunity for farmers to build equity for future success.
- 13. Creating a new market for Nebraska commodities (corn and soybean) within the state by feeding poultry will bring economic income to rural communities through well paying jobs, increased tax base, and population retention.
- 14. This opportunity will help diversify small and medium size farms to remain sustainable in a time when consolidation in agriculture is increasing farm size.

- 15. Farmer partners will be offered a 15-year contract. These farmer partners will be rewarded for superior management of the flocks.
- 16. This project will NOT use a tournament style grower payment system.
- 17. The litter will be composted in the barns after every flock, which kills pathogens and reduces odor. Use of this valuable natural fertilizer is regulated, reduces the need for commercial fertilizers, and supports soil health. The farmer partners own the litter, which can lower input costs on their farms or be sold as a source of income.
- 18. This project is committed to social responsibility, environment soundness and secures a diverse income for its farmer partners.
- 19. Working with Nebraska regulatory agencies in a positive way is a priority.