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## **Strategic Biofuels and Sumitomo Corporation of Americas Announce Major Investment Commitment**

*Renewable fuels company also announces a strategic shift from Renewable Diesel to Sustainable Aviation Fuel production at its Louisiana Green Fuels project*

**COLUMBIA, LA** and **NEW YORK, NY**, February 7, 2024— Strategic Biofuels, the leader in developing deeply negative carbon footprint renewable fuel plants, and Sumitomo Corporation of Americas (SCOA), a subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation, a leading Fortune 500 global trading and business investment company dedicated to sustainability, announced today that they have entered into a Joint Development Agreement for the Louisiana Green Fuels (LGF) project at the Port of Columbia in Caldwell Parish, Louisiana.

SCOA will take an anchor position and lead the formation of a Japanese-based investment consortium aimed at funding the majority of development capital needed to carry the project to Financial Investment Decision (FID) and commencement of construction in early 2025. As part of the agreement, SCOA will also acquire rights at FID to participate for a portion of the full project equity requirement. In a decisive strategic shift related to the investment, Strategic Biofuels also unveiled plans to change its primary renewable fuel product to sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). SCOA intends to provide a 20-year offtake for the approximately 640 million gallons of renewable fuels produced as well as all state and federal renewable fuel credits.

“Our goal has always been to bring online a fuels plant contributing to a sustainable future, and we are thrilled to have SCOA as our partner in our LGF endeavor. The shift to SAF is an exciting moment for us and our partners, for the energy landscape in Louisiana and for the greater global energy transition overall,” said Dr. Paul Schubert, CEO of Strategic Biofuels. “Although we have a

lot of work ahead of us, our team is fully prepared to advance the project to FID and supply SCOA with SAF.”

### **Louisiana Green Fuels project shifting gears**

SAF is a renewably produced fuel specifically created to reduce the considerable carbon emissions of commercial aviation. When the LGF project was first announced, Strategic Biofuels garnered recognition for the extraordinarily low carbon footprint of the planned renewable diesel fuel product. The footprint of SAF that will now be produced is expected to be so low that just one gallon of it blended with three gallons of fossil-derived jet fuel will reduce the dependency on carbon in the future. To achieve this carbon reduction in 2029, the LGF plant will utilize:

- Approximately 1 million tons per year of forestry waste as the feedstock for the biorefinery;
- Green energy from an integrated biomass-fired power plant that will take nearly 1 million tons of sawmill waste annually to produce 86 megawatts of power; and
- Geologic carbon sequestration of 1.36 million metric tons per year of CO<sub>2</sub> produced from both of those operations to create this fuel which is equivalent to removing nearly 300,000 passenger cars from the road, making it a product much in demand by the aviation industry.

“Our partnership with Strategic Biofuels is just another example of our commitment to support the energy transition within the Americas,” said Sandro Hasegawa, General Manager, Energy Innovation Initiative Americas at SCOA. “Supporting the LGF project means bringing groundbreaking technology to the Port of Columbia that enables the local economy and sustains the natural environment. We look forward to leading the investment with our partners in Japan and demonstrating what can be accomplished when global players work together.”

This investment commitment from SCOA continues the path from 2023, which was a year of rapid project advancement for LGF. Most recently, Strategic Biofuels announced that the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality had issued an Air Permit for the integrated LGF facility, an industry “first of its kind” in Louisiana and a major step forward for the project. This followed an agreement with SLB, a global technology company, to provide its industry-leading technical services for the company’s planned carbon sequestration complex. Earlier in the year, the EPA deemed the project’s Class VI permit application for carbon sequestration as “administratively complete,” which included extensive geologic data collected from LGF’s 2021 Class V stratigraphic test well.

Furthermore, the EPA announced on December 29, 2023 that it was awarding "primacy" to the State of Louisiana, conveying to the state's Department of Natural Resources the right to issue Class VI permits for geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide. Louisiana is only the third state to be granted this authority. As has occurred in the only two other states granted primacy, that action is expected to accelerate the schedule for regulatory review and Class VI permit issuance.

### **Strategic Biofuels impact goes beyond industry with local transformation**

Once complete, the LGF plant will create approximately 151 direct jobs onsite with an average annual income of \$70,000 per year, excluding benefits; while five to six times as many indirect job opportunities are expected. During peak construction times, an estimated 1,500 jobs will need to be filled to further the plant to operation. As a result, Strategic Biofuels will substantially improve the local quality of life in the nation's seventh poorest US Congressional District (LA-5) and tenth poorest Parish in Louisiana, which has an average household income of just \$41,000 per year. The team is also actively involved with Caldwell Parish School District and has helped support several programs championing career and personal development.

### **About Strategic Biofuels**

Strategic Biofuels LLC is a team of highly experienced energy, petrochemical and renewable fuels technology experts focused on developing a series of deeply negative carbon footprint plants in northern Louisiana that convert waste materials from managed and sustainable forests into renewable fuels. The fuels qualify for substantial Carbon Credits under the Federal Renewable Fuel Standard Program and under the California Low Carbon Fuels Standard. For more information, visit [www.strategicbiofuels.com](http://www.strategicbiofuels.com).

### **About Louisiana Green Fuels**

Louisiana Green Fuels is the first biomass waste-to-fuels project by Strategic Biofuels LLC in northern Louisiana at the Port of Columbia in Caldwell Parish. The biofuel refinery and adjacent power plant and their accompanying Class VI Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) Wells will be the first SAF project in the world to achieve "deeply negative" carbon emissions.

### **About Sumitomo Corporation of Americas**

Sumitomo Corporation of Americas is the largest subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation, a leading global trading company, with 108 locations in 65 countries and 20 locations in Japan. The entire Sumitomo Corporation Group consists of 900 companies and more than 80,000 personnel. The Sumitomo business is continuously expanding into a diverse range of products and services. As of December 31, 2023, Sumitomo had total assets of over \$72 billion and cash-on-hand of over \$4.26 billion (please refer to our website at [www.sumitomocorp.com](http://www.sumitomocorp.com)).