Norfolk Insider

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"Moving Forward"

In January 2014, Maximo Tejeda announced that a 350,000 square foot Tejas Tubular plant would be built in Norfolk adding an estimated 200 jobs to the area. The Texas based company makes piping and casing for both oil and gas transport and drilling. At that time Black Hills Energy also announced they planned to build a new gas line to supply natural gas for the Norfolk Tejas plant and other industrial projects.

In light of the change in the international oil market Norfolk Mayor Sue Fuchtman, City Administrator Shane Weidner and Economic Director Courtney Dentlinger recently met with Black Hills Energy officials, Nucor General Manager Dirk Petersen and Tejeda about the Tejas plant construction in Norfolk.

Tejeda told the group he was more committed than ever to the project but the company needed to adjust their fairly aggressive timeline.

"Nucor remains committed to Tejas and to providing steel billets for their Norfolk mill. We will continue with our own expansion project in anticipation of supplying their needs," said Petersen.

Jeff Sylvester, vice president of Nebraska natural gas operations for Black Hills Energy, said that the company is still committed to building the natural gas line.

"Safe, reliable natural gas service from a dependable company is imperative to attracting new businesses to northeast Nebraska," Sylvester said. "Black Hills Energy remains committed to making this project successful and will resume the construction process according to the new timeline."

The City of Norfolk is planning to extend sewer service to the industrial area northeast of Norfolk this year. New sewer and water lines are also being extended to the southwest area of Norfolk.

"We are excited about the continued commitment of Tejas, Black Hills Energy and Nucor Steel to invest in Norfolk and we support their efforts to secure America's energy independence in this time of market uncertainty," Fuchtman said.