

A Formal No Go For Tyson Project

(KAIR)--Citing “overwhelming public opposition,” the Tonganoxie City Council approves a resolution in opposition to the once planned construction of a chicken processing facility in the Tonganoxie area.

The resolution, which states “the Tonganoxie City Council does not support the development of the proposed Tyson Foods Poultry Complex on the site, within close proximity of the Tonganoxie city limits,” was approved Monday.

The Council had been asked to consider the extension of the City's sanitary sewer to the proposed location of the facility, with the approved ordinance specifically stating the extension would not be approved.

On September 5, Tyson Foods, with support of leaders from the state, and Leavenworth area, announced plans to build a \$320 million dollar poultry processing operation near Tonganoxie.

Gov. Sam Brownback's administration had pledged an undisclosed amount of tax breaks to persuade Tyson to locate on a 300-acre site south of Tonganoxie.

Despite promises of job growth, and other economic expansion, public opposition against the plan swelled, with Leavenworth area leaders addressed in public session, and otherwise, by those against the location of the processing complex.

In September, the Leavenworth County Commission reversed its support of issuing \$500 million in industrial revenue bonds to help finance the plant.

Tyson Foods, following that move, announced that the Tonganoxie plans were on hold, leaving other local county leaders, including Atchison, to informally entertain the possibility of pushing for the opportunity to become the future site of the complex.

In late September, several out of area counties signed letters of support hoping to entice Tyson to build in their locations.

No official word has been made by Tyson regarding the future site for the complex.

Many Signals Communications