



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
April 22, 2008

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LPFA completes \$36 million bond sale for Baton Rouge Coca-Cola Bottling Company **Bond sale to provide funding for new bottling facility**

The Louisiana Public Facilities Authority has closed a \$36 million bond sale for Coca-Cola Bottling Company United – Gulf Coast, LLC, which is building a new Coca-Cola bottling plant in North Baton Rouge that will produce and bottle Coca-Cola products for all six of the company's sales and distribution centers in South Louisiana and South Mississippi.

The new bottling plant is being constructed on 112 acres on Plank Road, near Baton Rouge's Metro Airport. The new bottling plant replaces a facility that has undergone six expansions since its construction 37 years ago, and is expected to immediately increase production by 33 percent.

The plant will handle production and bottling of all types of Coca-Cola products currently distributed through Coca-Cola Bottling Company United, Inc.'s six distribution hubs located in its Gulf Coast Region, which include Baton Rouge, Lafayette and Lake Charles, as well as Hattiesburg, Gulfport and McComb, Miss. The project is expected to generate 400 construction jobs and create 10 new permanent positions, in addition to the 497 current employees. Baton Rouge Coca-Cola is financing the new plant, in part, with bonds issued by the LPFA.

"We're looking forward to the completion and opening of our new bottling plant this December. We will be able to produce and distribute our brands more efficiently as well as significantly expand our capabilities for the future," said Darian Chustz, President of Baton Rouge Coca Cola Bottling Co. "We thank the LPFA for helping us secure the funding for our new plant."

The bonds were sold under terms of the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005, which qualifies the project for special federal tax incentives.

“It’s especially important that this big project will be built in a part of Baton Rouge that has been undergoing a rejuvenation of business activity,” said James W. Parks II, President and CEO of the LPFA. “Coca-Cola has been a fixture in Louisiana for more than a century, and the LPFA is pleased to be helping it finance its new bottling plant through the Go Zone Act.”

The Louisiana Public Facilities Authority is a self-supporting public trust and public corporation that issues both taxable and tax-exempt bonds to finance public and private projects throughout the state. The LPFA finances industrial and economic development projects, provides low-cost funding for hospitals and hospital equipment, universities and other educational facilities, student loans and essential programs for state and local governmental units. The LPFA does not receive any funds from the state for its operations.

For more information about LPFA services and programs, visit the LPFA website at www.lpfa.com or call (800) 228-4755.

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