

Norfolk Insider

City of Norfolk, NE

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“New \$125 Million Plant Coming to Norfolk”

Work starts the first week of November on a \$125 million pipe mill manufacturing facility in northeast Norfolk that will bring 180 new jobs to the area.

Charley Havens, CEO/Director of OCT Pipe LLC, announced Wednesday that the company will build a one million square foot manufacturing facility to make seamless steel pipe at the southwest corner of Victory Road and Eisenhower Avenue in Norfolk. It's estimated that the plant will use 350,000 tons of steel per year once fully operational.

“These are exactly the kind of good paying jobs this area has been working to attract. We have the schools, work ethic and business climate that is favorable to their company and to their employees. They'll be a great addition to our manufacturing community,” said Norfolk Mayor Sue Fuchtman.

The company's plan to create at least 50 jobs with average salaries upwards of \$70,000, and plans for capital investment in their facility and equipment of upwards of \$111,000,000 qualifies them for Tier 6 of Nebraska Advantage incentives. The company is also applying for Tax Increment Financing to make the project financially feasible by offsetting some necessary infrastructure costs.

“The City of Norfolk is delighted to welcome OCT Pipe to the community. Nebraska is a great state in which to do business. Just as important as our business-friendly climate are the economic development programs which help communities attract capital investment and quality jobs. We're thankful for the foresight of our state and local leaders in creating and funding these necessary programs,” said Norfolk Economic Development Director Courtney Dentlinger.

Although site preparation for the OCT plant will start in November, it will take all of 2016 to construct the facility and part of 2017 to ready it for production. The company plans to be operational in July 2017. Ayars and Ayars of Lincoln and Omaha is the general contractor for the project.