

Fuel and Fiber Company

Economic Impact

Employment

Employment for hemp production, calculated at one worker per 40 acres farmed^{xvi}, results in a total of 1,700 to 4,275 new jobs, if 10% of California's cropland is put into production of cannabis hemp. These jobs are created across all traditional agricultural employment sectors, upon full development of the system.

The processing plants will also create new jobs in these areas^{xvii}:

- Administrative & Sales – 15 to 25 per facility
- Research & Development – 25 to 50 statewide
- Engineering & Technical – 75 to 100 statewide
- Construction & Maintenance – 150 to 300 statewide
- Transportation & Material Handling – 10 to 20 per facility
- General Labor – 25 to 50 per facility

Construction

Each facility will incur \$100-300 million in construction costs. Much of the equipment and labor will be procured locally, creating new jobs and opportunities for entrepreneurs to provide equipment and services to this new industry.

Related agricultural activities

At an average cost of \$520 per acre, returns to farmers will range from \$50-\$500 profit per acre. Used in rotation with other crops, hemp can help reduce herbicide use resulting in savings to the farmer on production of crops other than hemp.

Environmental Impact

There are a great number of environmental impacts to be considered, including;

- Water use. Agricultural operations & processing will consume hundreds of millions of gallons.
- Large mono-crop systems have been problematic. Though hemp lends itself well to mono-cropping, effective & feasible rotation schemes must be devised.
- Genetically Modified Organisms - Are key to efficient conversions but may pose a great threat to life. This is an issue that must be handled with complete transparency & integrity.
- Waste streams generated - Though expected to be low, a detailed accounting must be made and addressed.
- Creation of "Carbon Sink" to absorb carbon
- Improved land and water management
- In-State fuel production - reducing transport costs and associated effects
- Reduction in emissions (Continued use of RFG)
- \$35 per acre total environmental benefit