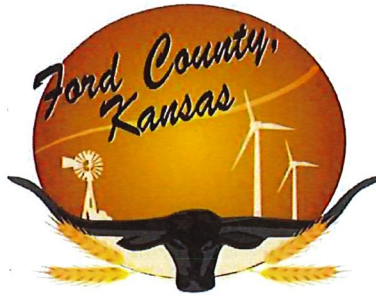


J.D. Gilbert, B.S., M.B.A.
County Administrator
& Public Information Officer
jgilbert@fordcounty.net



Ford County Government Center
100 Gunsmoke Street
Dodge City, Kansas 67801

Dr. Shawn Fletcher, CPM
Assistant County Administrator
sfletcher@fordcounty.net

Amy Stoecker
Executive Assistant
astoecker@fordcounty.net
620.227-4670 / 371-3977 fax

Cargill Statement:

"A small stand-alone building at our protein facility in Dodge City, KS experienced an explosion this morning. Two employees are receiving medical treatment for burns and we are investigating the cause of the accident. As an extra precaution, our production will be suspended today. We expect to be operational soon and will meet all our customer commitments.

We are grateful for the partnership of the to the local emergency medical response team. Our focus is on the safety of our employees and getting the best care for our colleagues."

Any further media inquiries, please contact:

Daniel Sullivan
Media Relations Director – North America
Global Corporate Affairs
952-742-6840

J.D Gilbert, BS, MBA

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J.D. Gilbert", is written over a blue horizontal line.

County Administrator and Public Information Officer