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Abbott chose Ohio over Canada, Indiana

By Thomas Gnau

TIPP CITY — Ohio beat Canada and Indiana in landing the \$270 million Abbott Laboratories nutritional drinks plant, Ohio Gov. John Kasich and U.S. House Speaker John Boehner said Monday at the plant's ceremonial groundbreaking.

The plant will employ 240 workers with room to grow, Abbott and public officials also said.

And Kasich expressed confidence that Ohio would recoup its incentives investment into the plant in little more than a year.

"It's a good thing on so many levels," Kasich said.

The Ohio Tax Credit Authority approved in late March a 75 percent, 15-year "job creation" tax credit for Abbott worth an estimated \$8 million-plus. And Tipp City recently approved an incentive package worth more than \$1.2 million, including an agreement to build an east-west access road on the south side of the Abbott lot, off County Road 25A in southern Miami County. The road is being partially funded by the state.

Kasich believes the state's investment will be won back through worker tax revenues in about 15 months. "It was a good package," the governor said after the ceremonial groundbreaking. "We didn't give away the store."

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