

Five local firms get tax credits for job creation

Staff Report

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COLUMBUS — Five local companies are receiving job creation tax credits with a total value of \$3.27 million in exchange for retaining 1,780 jobs and creating 547 more, the state Department of Development announced Tuesday, March 30.

The projects include:

* ConAgra Foods Packaged Foods, LLC will receive a 15-year, 70 percent tax credit valued at \$1.99 million in exchange for a \$59 million project in Troy expected to create 191 jobs and retain 371 more. The company, which will soon add Slim Jim beef jerky production to its pizza production business at a Troy plant, would be required to maintain operations in Troy for at least 18 years.

* Pierre Foods, Inc. will receive a six-year, 50 percent tax credit valued at \$279,020 in exchange for a \$21.5 million project in West Chester Twp., Butler County, that's expected to create 40 jobs and retain 849 more. The company, whose brands produce a line of fully cooked beef, pork, chicken, turkey, peanut butter and bakery products, would have to maintain operations at the site for at least nine years.

* RealPage, Inc. will receive a six-year, 50 percent tax credit valued at \$635,571 in exchange for a \$14 million project in Deerfield Twp., Warren County, that's expected to create 87 jobs. The company, which specializes in rental housing software, would have to maintain operations at the site for at least nine years.

* Sugar Creek Packing Co. will receive a six-year, 45 percent tax credit valued at \$136,436 in exchange for a \$3.25 million project in Dayton expected to create 79 jobs and retain 406 more. The company, one of the nation's largest independent bacon processors, would have to maintain operations at the site for at least nine years.

* Sugar Creek Packing Co. also will receive a six-year, 45 percent tax credit valued at \$84,245 in exchange for an \$84,245 project in West Chester Twp., Butler County, expected to create 50 jobs and retain 75 more. The company would have to maintain operations at the site for at least nine years.

* The Hartz Mountain Corp. will receive a five-year, 45 percent tax credit valued at \$138,525 in exchange for a \$2.6 million project in Harlan Twp., Warren County, expected to create 100 jobs and retain 79 more. The company, which was founded in 1926 and has branched out from just selling supplies for birds, cats and dogs, would have to maintain operations at the project site for at least eight years.

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