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**Koch Fertilizer Canada, Ltd. announces
“Sirens for Safety”—
\$78,400 challenge grant for Brandon siren station project**

In a move to bolster community safety, Koch Fertilizer Canada, Ltd has announced Sirens for Safety, a challenge grant to purchase and install much needed siren alarm stations throughout the city of Brandon. The alarms will be used to alert the community to severe storms, tornadoes and other emergencies.

In cooperation with the city of Brandon and the Brandon Emergency Alerting Program (BEAP), Koch Fertilizer plans to donate \$78,400, stepping forward this week with a lead gift of \$39,200 to jumpstart the campaign. Once the community raises an additional \$39,200, Koch Fertilizer will match those dollars to bring total private funds raised to \$117,600. That amount, coupled with \$156,800 already pledged by the city, will provide the \$274,400 needed to purchase and install eight alarm stations planned through BEAP.

“This gift shows the kind of civic commitment that makes Brandon a great place to do business,” said Brandon Mayor Dave Burgess. “We sincerely hope Koch Fertilizer’s leadership inspires other companies and individuals to step up to support this effort.”

“Koch Fertilizer Canada is committed to improving the quality of life in Brandon,” said Bob Rader, managing director of the company. “These new community warning systems will improve safety and help our economic climate. It’s an effort well worth supporting.”

Brian Kayes, director of emergency coordination for the City of Brandon, said the city’s goal is to reach the community match by December 2008.

In addition, the city is seeking donations of \$27,000 for the purchase of 40 tone alert radios to make the alert system fully operational.

Two stations have been installed to date; one funded through a federal grant, the second funded by the City of Brandon and the Brandon Emergency Support Team (BEST). Koch Fertilizer provides ongoing financial support to BEST. For more information or to donate to the siren project, contact the city’s Emergency Preparedness Program, (204) 729-2239 or best@brandon.ca.