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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Lewiston, ID (January 27, 2026) – Nez Perce County Approves Tax Abatement for Cascade Plastics,**

**Citing Strategic Economic Growth**

LEWISTON, ID – Following a public hearing held today, the Nez Perce County Board of Commissioners officially approved a property tax abatement application for Cascade Plastics. The decision, made pursuant to Idaho Code 63-602NN and Nez Perce County (NPC) Ordinance No. 101, supports a major \$6.5 million advanced manufacturing investment in the Lewis-Clark Valley by Cascade Plastics.

The approval marks a critical step in the County's strategy to attract and support "new wealth generators"—businesses that bring new capital into the region from outside markets, rather than simply circulating existing local dollars. By supporting the expansion of Cascade Plastics, a subsidiary of Flex Labs Inc., the Commission is prioritizing the creation of high-quality, "living wage" jobs for area residents.

"This is about more than just one company; it is about the future of the L-C Valley," said Ann Watkins, Chairman for Valley Vision Economic Development Corporation (VVEDC). "We want to thank the NPC Commissioners because they play a vital role in aiding these expansions. By providing these strategic incentives to help attract new industries, we are ensuring our **youth have future career opportunities** right here at home, diversifying our local economy, and ultimately growing a stronger tax base that benefits every citizen in Nez Perce County."

**Impact of the Approved Project:**

- **New Infrastructure:** Completion of a 36,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility at 2512 7th Ave N.
- **Job Creation:** Over 30 new skilled positions with full benefits, including health, dental, and retirement, with an annual payroll (estimated by VVEDC) to be between \$1.2 M - \$1.5 M, bringing an estimated figure between \$ 1.9 M - \$2.25 M in annual impact to the local economy.
- **Supply Chain Support:** Localized "just-in-time" production for regional industry leaders like CCI Speer.
- **Economic Diversification:** Introducing the first plastic injection molding operation to the Valley's manufacturing sector, allowing the VVEDC to market the L-C Valley to different industry sectors.

“Granting this exemption would serve as a powerful signal that our local governments are committed to responsible economic development ... “ said Mayor Dan Johnson in a written letter to the NPC Commissioners in a letter read during public hearing.

The tax abatement is designed to offset initial startup costs during the facility's ramp-up period. Of note, while the abatement provides some temporary relief, the long-term presence of Cascade Plastics will result in a significant net increase to the city and county tax base, funding essential public services for years to come.

"We are grateful to the Commissioners for their vision and partnership," said Kevin Fuller, Owner of Cascade Plastics. "This approval allows us to move forward with confidence, knowing that Nez Perce County is a place where manufacturing excellence is valued and supported."

**About Nez Perce County Commission:** *The Board of Commissioners serves as the executive and legislative branch of county government, dedicated to the economic health, safety, and well-being of the residents of Nez Perce County, Idaho.*

**About Cascade Plastics:** *Cascade Plastics is an innovative plastic injection molding company, and is part of additional successful businesses known as Flex Labs Corp, Federal Plastics, Reflex Medical, Rem Plastics and Federal Molding.*

**About Valley Vision EDC:** *Valley Vision Economic Development Corporation (VVEDC) of the Lewis-Clark Valley is a bi-state economic development organization servicing the communities of Lewiston ID., Clarkston, WA., and Nez Perce County, ID., and Asotin County, WA. for over 25 years. VVEDC's mission is to actively attract, expand, or provide assistance to new wealth generators that enhance the quality of life to the Lewis-Clark Valley.*

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