



ROCKWOOL purchases 250 acres in Washington state, eyes West Coast expansion

Property in Walla Walla County could become site of new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility, boost production capacity of stone wool insulation

WALLULA, WA (MARCH 7, 2024) – ROCKWOOL North America today announced it has signed an agreement to acquire 250 acres in Walla Walla County, Washington, with the intention to build a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility featuring proprietary electric melting technology for its stone wool insulation products.

The property is in the Wallula Gap Business Park, a 1,280-acre site zoned for heavy and mixed industrial use near the western boundary of Walla Walla County.

No construction timeline has been announced for the new facility, which would be ROCKWOOL's fifth North American manufacturing facility and would support growing demand for the company's products in the western United States.

"ROCKWOOL has operated in North America for more than 30 years. We are excited to take this first step toward establishing ourselves in the Mid-Columbia region and growing our stone wool production capacity to better serve customers in the western United States," said Rory Moss, President of ROCKWOOL North America. "We look forward to engaging with the local communities and sharing more as plans develop."

"The Port of Walla Walla is very excited about this economic development project in our region," said Port of Walla Walla Commissioner President Kip Kelly. "A responsible manufacturer like ROCKWOOL would be a benefit to our local economy and a pillar of sustainable industry. The ROCKWOOL project will also be a transformative project for the Port's Wallula Gap Business Park, and we are confident that it will not only drive future economic growth but also further enhance the economic health of Walla Walla County."

The Wallula Gap Business Park is the largest of nine business parks managed by the Port of Walla Walla. It was one of six sites selected in 2023 by the Washington State Department of Commerce to split \$2.5 million in grants aimed at attracting and expanding manufacturing activity in the state.¹

"We're pleased to welcome ROCKWOOL to Washington," said Washington State Department of Commerce Director Mike Fong. "This aligns with our economic priorities, ensures job creation and emphasizes our commitment to sustainability. We are excited to be part of ROCKWOOL's expansion strategy."



Meet ROCKWOOL: Community Open Houses

To introduce ROCKWOOL locally, the company will host open houses in Burbank and Walla Walla next month where community members can meet ROCKWOOL leaders and learn about ROCKWOOL's products and manufacturing processes as well as its commitment to the wellbeing, environmental stewardship, and economic prosperity of the communities in which it operates.

April 17 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Walla Walla County Fire District 5
460 W. Humorist Rd.
Burbank, WA 99323

April 18 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Walla Walla Regional Airport Terminal Building – Conference Room
45 Terminal Loop
Walla Walla, WA 99362

ROCKWOOL's stone wool is manufactured from volcanic rock and has many inherent strengths that make it ideal for use in a range of insulation, acoustic, design, and other applications in buildings, industry, transportation, horticulture, and water management. It is also endlessly recyclable and sustainable. The stone wool building insulation ROCKWOOL sold last year will over its lifetime save 100 times the energy consumed and carbon dioxide emitted during its production.

¹ <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/news/commerce-invests-2-5-million-to-accelerate-development-of-six-rural-industrial-sites/>

About ROCKWOOL™

ROCKWOOL is North America's largest stone wool manufacturer, with four manufacturing facilities throughout the United States and Canada and nearly 1,100 employees. We are committed to enriching the lives of everyone who experiences our products and services. We help our customers and communities tackle many of today's biggest sustainability and development challenges, from energy consumption and noise pollution to fire resilience, water scarcity and flooding. Our product range reflects the diversity of North America's built environment, while supporting our stakeholders in reducing their own carbon footprint – all by releasing the natural power of stone.

For more information visit: www.rockwool.com/north-america/wallula

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Building a Better Future



ROCKWOOL in Wallula

We've purchased 250 acres in the Wallula Gap Business Park where we intend to build our fifth North American manufacturing facility featuring our proprietary electric melting technology to produce stone wool insulation.

After an extensive search and an invitation from local officials, Wallula was our top choice for a new facility to meet an increased demand for our products across the western United States.

While no construction timeline has been announced, we're committed to working with the community to make this a mutually beneficial partnership. We will hire local contractors and buy products and services from local sources whenever possible while providing new opportunities for businesses interested in working with ROCKWOOL.

We take pride in helping the communities in which we operate thrive and prosper. We employ local workers, support local businesses, and give back through community partnerships.

Local Economic Impact



\$175M investment in the region during construction



670+ jobs created during construction



125 employees once operational



\$8.6M in job earnings each year once operational



\$2.4M in state and local tax revenue once operational

About ROCKWOOL

We are the world's leading manufacturer of environmentally friendly stone wool insulation. Our products are used in a variety of commercial, residential, and industrial applications that improve peoples' lives and help create a more sustainable future. We use responsible production processes, including industry-leading melting and emissions abatement technology, and a closed-loop system to reuse and recycle water throughout the manufacturing process. Founded more than 85 years ago, we now operate more than 50 manufacturing facilities around the world and support a global network of sales offices, distributors, and partners.

We transform volcanic rock into stone wool, a versatile and naturally non-combustible material with many strengths that make it ideal for use in a range of insulation, acoustic, design and other applications in buildings, industry, transportation, horticulture, and water management.

Stone wool has many benefits, including:



Fire Resiliency: Non-combustible stone wool insulation improves the fire resistance of buildings and can help limit the spread of fire.



Energy Efficiency: ROCKWOOL stone wool retains its insulation properties in extreme temperatures and humidity levels, ensuring a building operates with optimal energy efficiency to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Water Management: Stone wool can be engineered to repel or absorb water, depending on its intended function. When used as building insulation, it reduces the risk of moisture build-up. Other ROCKWOOL stone wool products are designed to retain water for horticultural applications.



Outstanding Acoustics: Because of its non-directional structure, ROCKWOOL stone wool insulation is excellent at absorbing sound and reduces the intensity of noise transfer.

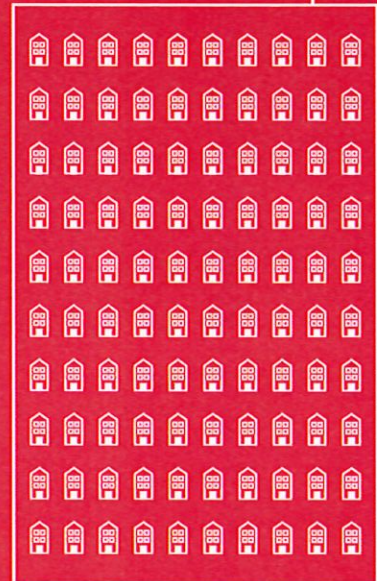
Stone wool is fully recyclable and sustainable.

The building insulation we sold in 2023 will save

100 times



the carbon emitted during its production.



ROCKWOOL facilities in North America



Contact ROCKWOOL Group at wallulaquestions@rockwool.com

Please visit our website for more information: www.rockwool.com/north-america/wallula



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 7, 2024

Contact:

Port of Walla Walla

Patrick H. Reay, 509/525-3100 Ext. 102

pr@portwallawalla.com

Port of Walla Walla announces that ROCKWOOL North America has signed an agreement to acquire 250 acres at the Port's Wallula Gap Business Park, Walla Walla County, Washington

Walla Walla, Washington – ROCKWOOL North America has signed an agreement to acquire 250 acres at the Port's Wallula Gap Business Park, Walla Walla County, Washington with the intent to build a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility featuring proprietary electric melting technology for its stone wool insulation products. The Port's Wallula Gap Business Park is a 1,280-acre site zoned for heavy and mixed industrial uses and is located in the western portion of Walla Walla County, Washington.

“On behalf of the Port of Walla Walla, I’d like to be among the first to welcome ROCKWOOL to Walla Walla County. Their facility and corporate culture will be a welcome addition to our community. Port staff, specifically Executive Director Pat Reay and Economic Development Director Paul Gerola, have been instrumental in making this project a reality. Over the past several years, they have been invaluable partners with ROCKWOOL through the due diligence process. Today’s ROCKWOOL announcement was made possible by the vision and effort of prior Port Commissioners, staff members and various funding sources investing in the development of the Wallula Gap Business Park,” said Port Commission President Kip Kelly.

“ROCKWOOL has operated in North America for more than 30 years. We are excited to take this first step toward establishing ourselves in the Mid-Columbia region and growing our stone wool production capacity to better serve customers in the western United States,” said Rory Moss, President of ROCKWOOL North America. “We look forward to engaging with the local communities and sharing more as plans develop.”

About Port of Walla Walla

Port Mission: Working to enhance the economic vitality of Walla Walla County through the creation and retention of family wage jobs. Founded in 1952, the Port of Walla Walla is a municipal corporation responsible for fostering economic development throughout Walla Walla County. The Port measures its success in terms of its ability to create and retain family wage jobs, attract and encourage new investment, expand the region's tax base, maintain multi-modal transportation linkages, build community infrastructure to support economic development, and provide leadership in enhancing Walla Walla County's overall economic vitality and quality of life. For more information on the Port of Walla Walla visit www.portwallawalla.com.

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