



October 22, 2009

## **Pilgrim's Pride Receives Court Approval to Solicit Stockholder Acceptance of Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization**

PITTSBURG, Texas, Oct. 22 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (Pink Sheets: PGPDQ) today announced that it has received approval from the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas to begin soliciting stockholder acceptance of the amended joint plan of reorganization of the company and six of its subsidiaries that are debtors and debtors in possession (the Debtors) in the chapter 11 cases pending before the court. The company's creditors will not be voting on the plan of reorganization as they are not considered to be an impaired class and all will be fully repaid upon the company's emergence from bankruptcy.

All stockholders of record on October 22, 2009, are entitled to vote to accept the plan of reorganization. Copies of the plan of reorganization and the amended disclosure statement will be mailed shortly. The deadline for ballots to be received by the voting agent is December 1, 2009. A court hearing to confirm the plan of reorganization is scheduled to be held December 8, 2009.

Pilgrim's Pride said that it anticipates the plan of reorganization to be confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court in time for the Debtors to emerge from bankruptcy before the end of December.

Last month, the Debtors filed a joint plan of reorganization and related disclosure statement with the court. Under terms of the joint plan of reorganization, Pilgrim's Pride has entered into an agreement to sell 64% of the new common stock of the reorganized Pilgrim's Pride to JBS U.S.A. for \$800 million in cash.

Information about Pilgrim's Pride's restructuring is available at Pilgrim's Pride's website [www.pilgrimspride.com](http://www.pilgrimspride.com) or via Pilgrim's Pride's restructuring information line at (888) 830-4659.

As previously announced, the Debtors filed voluntary Chapter 11 petitions on December 1, 2008. The Chapter 11 cases are being jointly administered under case number 08-45664. The Company's operations in Mexico and certain operations in the United States were not included in the filing and continue to operate as usual outside of the Chapter 11 process.

### *About Pilgrim's Pride*

Pilgrim's Pride Corporation employs approximately 41,000 people and operates chicken processing plants and prepared-foods facilities in 12 states, Puerto Rico and Mexico. The Company's primary distribution is through retailers and foodservice distributors. For more information, please visit <http://www.pilgrimspride.com>.

### *Forward-Looking Statements*

*Statements contained in this press release that state the intentions, plans, hopes, beliefs, anticipations, expectations or predictions of the future of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and its management, including expectations as to the Debtors' emergence from Chapter 11, reorganization of the Debtors' business and finances to resolve its operational and liquidity issues, expectations to emerge from Chapter 11 by December 2009 stronger and more competitive, anticipated authorizations being requested of the Bankruptcy Court, the liquidity to be provided by the proposed exit financing, and expectations that the plan should be supported by the Debtors' major constituencies, are forward-looking statements. It is important to note that the actual results could differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements include: the Debtors' ability to obtain court approval with respect to its motions in the Chapter 11 proceedings and the disclosure statement; the ability of the Debtors to obtain confirmation of, and consummate, the Plan; risks associated with third-party motions or objections in the Chapter 11 proceedings, which may interfere with the Company's ability to obtain confirmation of, and consummate, the Plan; the potential adverse effects of the Chapter 11 proceedings on the Debtors' liquidity or results of operations; matters affecting the poultry industry generally; continued compliance with conditions for funding under the debtor-in-possession financing facility and the proposed exit financing; the ability to execute the Debtors' business and restructuring plan to achieve desired cost savings and additional capital to improve liquidity; future pricing for feed ingredients and the Debtors' products; additional outbreaks of avian*

*influenza or other diseases, either in Pilgrim's Pride's flocks or elsewhere, affecting its ability to conduct its operations and/or demand for its poultry products; contamination of Pilgrim's Pride's products, which has previously and can in the future lead to product liability claims and product recalls; exposure to risks related to product liability, product recalls, property damage and injuries to persons, for which insurance coverage is expensive, limited and potentially inadequate; management of cash resources, particularly in light of Pilgrim's Pride's substantial leverage; restrictions imposed by, and as a result of, Pilgrim's Pride's substantial leverage; changes in laws or regulations affecting Pilgrim's Pride's operations or the application thereof; new immigration legislation or increased enforcement efforts in connection with existing immigration legislation that cause the costs of doing business to increase, cause Pilgrim's Pride to change the way in which it does business, or otherwise disrupt its operations; competitive factors and pricing pressures or the loss of one or more of Pilgrim's Pride's largest customers; currency exchange rate fluctuations, trade barriers, exchange controls, expropriation and other risks associated with foreign operations; disruptions in international markets and distribution channels; and the impact of uncertainties of litigation as well as other risks described under "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Pilgrim's Pride Corporation undertakes no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.*

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