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BENTON HARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Whirlpool Corp. said Friday it will cut 1,100 jobs and close a refrigerator factory in Evansville, Ind., to cut excess production capacity.

The jobs will be eliminated in mid-2010. The Benton Harbor, Mich.-based appliance maker has aggressively cut costs as demand for big-ticket items has shrunk in the recession.

The company said it is still deciding what to do with 300 employees who work at a product-development center at the Evansville location.

Whirlpool will move the main Evansville production work to Mexico and another yet-to-be-decided location.

Al Holaday, Whirlpool's vice president of North American manufacturing, said the cuts were "difficult but necessary."

Its profit outlook for 2009 remains unchanged from a July forecast of \$3.50 to \$4 per share.

Whirlpool shares rose \$1.04 to \$65.58 in morning trading.

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