



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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MICHAEL T. SCUSE  
SECRETARY

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Sussex County Planning and Zoning Commission  
2 The Circle  
PO Box 417  
Georgetown, DE 19947

Dear Chairman Wheatley and Commission Members,

I am writing to offer my full support for a **rezoning request for Mountaire Farms of Delaware, Inc./Z 2003 KAR Farming Company, LLC**. Mountaire's proposed feed mill project demonstrates a significant investment in the future of poultry production in Sussex County, which should be celebrated considering the industry's economic impact on our region. The request for a zoning change also makes sense, as it follows Sussex County's long-term comprehensive plan for agricultural growth in that corridor and tracks the future land use map for these parcels.

Mountaire's investment in Sussex County, in Delaware, and the Delmarva Peninsula seems even more significant since it comes during the 100th anniversary of the poultry industry born here in Delaware in 1923. To see companies like Mountaire continue to reinvest in our region is critical to ensuring that agriculture remains Delaware's top industry. Mountaire Farms has been a great corporate partner in Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. In addition to being a significant employer, Mountaire helps dozens of small businesses thrive, including independent, contract growers who rely on income from the poultry companies.

On behalf of the Delaware Department of Agriculture and the family farms that this feed mill will positively impact, I am requesting that Sussex County approve this project. This feed mill will continue to pave the way so Delaware's agriculture industry, including the poultry companies, producers, and allied businesses, can remain prosperous for the next 100 years.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Scuse  
Secretary of Agriculture