



March 27, 2023

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

Dear Planning 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 economic impact the industry provides to our region. It seems even more significant since it comes during the 100-year anniversary of the poultry industry that was born right here on Delmarva in 1923. To see companies like Mountaire continue to reinvest in our region is both exciting and gratifying.

Mountaire Farms has been a great corporate partner in Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. In addition to being a major employer, Mountaire helps dozens of small businesses thrive including independent, contract growers who rely on income from the poultry companies.

Mountaire has a demonstrated history of giving back to the community through their various Mountaire Cares initiatives that have made a significant impact in our region. They are the gold standard when it comes to charitable giving.

The request for a zoning change also makes sense, as it follows Sussex County's own long-term comprehensive plan for future agricultural growth in that corridor and tracks the future land use map for these parcels.

We ask Sussex County to approve this project, paving the way for a continued, prosperous poultry industry and related businesses for the next 100 years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bobbi".

Bobbi J. Barends, Ph.D.  
Vice President and Campus Director

**CAMPUS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**JACK F. OWENS CAMPUS**

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