



February 10, 2021

SUPPORT EXHIBIT

Robert C. Wheatley
Chairman, Sussex County Planning and Zoning Commission
PO Box 417
Georgetown, DE 19947

Dear Chairman Wheatley,

Sussex County has the opportunity to be at the forefront of a cleaner energy future. Biogas produced from agricultural waste by the proposed Bioenergy DevCo anaerobic digester facility near Seaford is an important first step.

Over the past 160 years, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation has proudly served the energy needs of the Delmarva Peninsula. As we continue to meet the needs of Delaware's residents and businesses with affordable, reliable and clean natural gas, we are committed to constant improvements.

Our goal is to support a carbon-neutral future. A proven means to achieve this goal requires the introduction of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) into our natural gas system. As our financial investment into the facility and commitment to accept the biogas demonstrates, we strongly support the conditional land use application submitted by Bioenergy DevCo.

RNG can be a carbon-neutral or carbon-negative fuel because it captures significant amounts of greenhouse gases (GHG), such as carbon dioxide and methane, from organic waste that would otherwise decay and emit into the atmosphere. According to the Environmental Defense Fund, methane from organic waste is a greenhouse gas that is 80 times more potent than CO₂. RNG deployment nationwide could reduce GHG emissions by 235 million metric tons by 2040 while powering nearly 20 million homes through existing and expanded natural gas distribution lines. Each year, this project would remove GHGs from the atmosphere equivalent to removing 4,000 passenger vehicles from Delaware's roads.

RNG projects are being aggressively pursued across the U.S., both as a means to reduce GHGs and to better manage agricultural waste, strengthening the agricultural industry. The Bioenergy DevCo project is just the first of what we hope will be several RNG projects throughout the Delmarva Peninsula.

It's not at all trite to call this project a "win-win." Approval of Bioenergy DevCo's facility will help strengthen the region's \$3.5 billion agriculture industry, contribute to the local economy, and most importantly deliver real and immediate environmental benefits for residents of the county, state and nation.

We therefore urge you to support a cleaner energy future for Delaware and approve Bioenergy DevCo's anaerobic digester facility's Conditional Use of Land.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shane E. Breakie".

Shane E. Breakie
Vice President, Chesapeake Utilities



SENATE
STATE OF DELAWARE
411 LEGISLATIVE AVENUE
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

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JAN 27 2021

SUSSEX COUNTY
PLANNING & ZONING

January 27, 2021

Robert C. Wheatley, Chairman
Sussex County Planning and Zoning Commission
2 The Circle
Georgetown, DE 19947

SUPPORT EXHIBIT

Dear Chairman Wheatley,

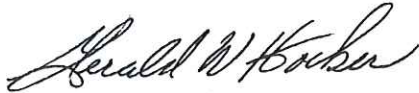
Please accept this letter of support for Bioenergy DevCo's proposed organics recycling project at the former Perdue Agrirecycle facility near Seaford, which will create renewable natural gas from agricultural wastes such as poultry litter and DAF using proven anaerobic digestion technology. Agriculture is Delaware's No. 1 industry and poultry farming and processing are an important part of Sussex County's economic fiber and rural heritage. Sussex County farmers produce more than 200 million broilers per year, and the poultry industry supports more than 20,000 jobs and generates \$3.5 Billion in annual economic impact in the State of Delaware.

Bioenergy's project supports the poultry industry and our farmers by offering a local and more environmentally sustainable disposable alternative for the waste organics produced from raising and processing chickens. This project to repurpose and upgrade the former Perdue facility represents a more than \$40 million investment by Bioenergy in Sussex County and will create a state-of-the-art facility - known as the Bioenergy Innovation Center - dedicated to sustainable nutrient management, renewable energy production, and healthy soil products. In addition to creating job, this project will serve as an anchor for green economic development in Sussex County and the State of Delaware.

Perdue's original mission for this facility was to help the poultry industry on the Delmarva peninsula manage residual organics in an environmentally smart manner. Bioenergy's proposed organics recycling project is in full keeping with this mission, and we are pleased to hear that Bioenergy has entered long-term relationships with Perdue to process its organic wastes into raw biogas and Chesapeake Utilities for the delivery of clean renewable gas within our communities.

With these benefits in mind, we urge the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve any permits and conditional use amendments necessary for this important project to move forward in Sussex County. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Gerald W. Hocker
Delaware State Senator, Minority Leader
20th Senatorial District



Brian G. Pettyjohn
Delaware State Senator, Minority Whip
19 Senatorial District



Ernesto B. Lopez
Delaware State Senator
6th Senatorial District



Bryant L. Richardson
Delaware State Senator
21st Senatorial District



David L. Wilson
Delaware State Senator
18th Senatorial District



SENATE
STATE OF DELAWARE
411 LEGISLATIVE AVENUE
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

SUPPORT EXHIBIT

January 27, 2021

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

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Delaware State Senator, Minority Leader
20th Senatorial District



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Ernesto B. Lopez
Delaware State Senator
6th Senatorial District



Bryant L. Richardson
Delaware State Senator
21st Senatorial District



David L. Wilson
Delaware State Senator
18th Senatorial District



SUPPORT EXHIBIT

STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2320 SOUTH DUPONT HIGHWAY
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901
AGRICULTURE.DELAWARE.GOV

TELEPHONE: (302) 698-4500
TOLL FREE: (800) 282-8685
FAX: (302) 697-6287

MICHAEL T. SCUSE
SECRETARY
KENNETH M. BOUNDS
DEPUTY SECRETARY

February 2, 2021

Robert C. Wheatley, Chairman
Sussex County Planning and Zoning Commission
2 The Circle
Georgetown, DE 19947

Dear Chairman Wheatley,

On behalf of the Delaware Department of Agriculture, I am pleased to provide a letter of support for the proposed organics recycling project by Bioenergy DevCo (BDC) at the former Perdue AgrirCycle facility. Bioenergy's proposal is in perfect alignment with the Department's mission to promote the viability of food, fiber, and agricultural industries in Delaware through quality services that protect the general public's health and welfare and enhance the environment, health, and welfare of the general public. This project provides a sustainable solution for organic waste produced by the poultry industry, Delaware's most significant agricultural sector.

Delaware's poultry industry supports more than 20,000 jobs, directly and indirectly, while generating a \$3.5 billion economic impact to our state. Ranked first in the nation, Sussex County produces more than 200 million broilers per year. Growing and processing broilers at this scale result in a significant amount of poultry litter and DAF sludge. The selection by BDC to locate their project in Sussex County is vital. Their commitment to investing more than \$40 million in repurposing and upgrading the former Perdue AgriRecycle facility will create a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to sustainable nutrient management, renewable energy, healthy soil products, and the creation of jobs for our residents.

The BDC project represents an opportunity to help transition the poultry industry to a more sustainable future. This project will recycle organic poultry waste and convert it into fossil-free biogas through proven anaerobic digestion technology used on farms across the United States. This biogas will then be cleaned and processed into pipeline-quality renewable natural gas and delivered to Delawareans through a partnership with Chesapeake Utilities. This important project not only benefits our residents and the environment but also serves as an innovative solution to agricultural waste that will help sustain and strengthen Delaware's agricultural industry for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Scuse
Secretary of Agriculture



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FEB 09 2021

SUSSEX COUNTY
PLANNING & ZONING

November 30, 2020

To whom it may concern:

The Sussex Economic Development Action Committee is pleased to endorse BioEnergy DevCo and their partnership for soil composting with Perdue and Chesapeake Utilities into renewable Natural Gas.

The commitment of BioEnergy DevCo and Chesapeake Utilities to bring residential and commercial locally sourced & renewable energy is a long term commitment that will add to the economy and bring jobs to the area.

SEDAC is pleased to endorse this project that should, as it grows continue to establish partnerships and more opportunities.

/signature/
Linda Price
Secretary
on behalf of the SEDAC Board

SUPPORT EXHIBIT



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF DELAWARE
411 LEGISLATIVE AVENUE
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

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FEB 09 2021

SUSSEX COUNTY
PLANNING & ZONING

January 25, 2021

SUPPORT EXHIBIT

Robert C. Wheatley, Chairman
Sussex County Planning and Zoning Commission

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With these benefits in mind, we urge the Department of Planning and Zoning to approve any permits and conditional use amendments necessary for this important project to move forward in Sussex County. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Daniel B. Short
House Minority Leader
State Representative
39th District

Timothy D. Dukes
House Minority Whip
State Representative
40th District

SUPPORT EXHIBIT



Educate. Advocate. Innovate.

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FEB 10 2021

SUSSEX COUNTY
PLANNING & ZONING

February 9, 2021

Dear Chairmen Wheatley and fellow Commissioners:

My name is Holly Porter and I am the Executive Director of the Delmarva Chicken Association (formerly the Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc.), the 1,600-member trade association working for the common good of the meat chicken industry in Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and Virginia's Eastern Shore.

In 2020, the Delmarva chicken industry, from farm to harvest represented \$3.2 billion in economic value with more than 18,000 jobs in the region. A major challenge for the industry is how our member companies can carefully and wisely manage business while also complying with environmental commitments; particularly in such areas as wastewater management and output of Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) residuals.

This is why I write in support of the anaerobic digester project being built by Bioenergy Development Group (BDG) in conjunction with Chesapeake Utilities at the site of the former Perdue Recycling facility in Seaford, Delaware. Given BDG's 20-year history in building and operating similar agricultural sites throughout the world and their ability to self-finance these projects, there are few better ways to economically support the Delmarva chicken community while ensuring the environmental health of Sussex county and Delaware residents.

The fit between the poultry industry, BDG and Chesapeake Utilities is a perfect example of the circular economy at work. The poultry industry is a source of organic material that allows us to manage our costs while remaining environmental stewards. The anaerobic digestion process offers sustainable, carbon-negative energy source to augment utility portfolios. In addition, Chesapeake Utilities will minimize its carbon footprint while continuing to deliver sustainable renewable energy and fuel to homes and businesses throughout the Delmarva Peninsula, including chicken farms.

So, I write for our industry in support of this "shovel ready" project as it will drive our local economy while being a living example of what's good for business can be good for the environment and consumers alike. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Holly Porter
Executive Director

FILE COPY

RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

Rutgers EcoComplex
1200 Florence-Columbus Road
Bordentown, NJ 08505-4200

ecocomplex.rutgers.edu
609-499-3600
Fax: 609-499-3647

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FEB 10 2021

SUPPORT EXHIBIT

Chairman Robert Wheatley
Department of Planning and Zoning
2 The Cir,
Georgetown, DE 19947

SUSSEX COUNTY
PLANNING & ZONING
February 10, 2021

Re: Anaerobic Digestion for Reutilizing Food Waste to Achieve Sustainability and Climate Change Mitigation

Dear Chairman Wheatley;

I am sending this letter in support of your initiative to reutilize food waste through innovative anaerobic digestion technology. Rutgers EcoComplex "Clean Technology Innovation Center" promotes clean technologies to achieve sustainability, contribute to a circular carbon economy and mitigate climate change not only in New Jersey, but also regionally and nationally.

Municipal solid waste is a complex heterogeneous mix of materials and a single technology treatment, such as landfilling or incineration, have proven to be inefficient when it comes to climate change mitigation and a circular carbon economy approach. Pivoting to environmentally sustainable and economically feasible pathways, and to efficiently valorize waste materials and feed them back into the economy, is highly dependent on the quality of the waste, degree of cross contamination, and the technology to reutilize them. Source separated food waste should not be buried in landfill cells since landfill gas recovery is not 100 percent and landfill gas leaks into the atmosphere.

Anaerobic Digestion (AD) of the biodegradable organic fraction of MSW is one of the emerging circular-carbon systems and is considered to be a better solution for converting organic waste into clean energy. The process also produces compost-based byproducts, thus extracting the maximum benefits from organic wastes. Circular-carbon reutilization approaches can position organic waste as a valuable **resource** for energy generation, nutrient recovery as fertilizer, feedstock for further composting and reduced water consumption. Anaerobic digestion will reduce GHG emissions via recovered renewable energy, displace fossil-based energy and recycled nutrients will displace fossil- and mineral-based fertilizers. This is a very important feature of the AD process since research shows that landfills currently emit 18% of US methane emissions. Additionally, state-of-the-art AD technologies can eliminate groundwater pollution often caused by improperly managed landfilling and composting operations. AD facilities are currently being planned throughout the US to divert organic waste from landfills and to produce biogas in the form of "renewable natural gas (RNG)" and compost-based materials as stand-alone facilities.

We understand there are concerns regarding methane generation through anaerobic digestion technology. The most important feature of anaerobic digestion technology is the gas recovery is almost 97% as compared to landfilling technology which may have at best a landfill gas recovery of

RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

85%. Generating methane and almost fully capturing it and utilizing it for energy use either on site or injecting into the pipelines, can eliminate methane leakages. Renewable Natural gas from organic waste is converted into CO₂, but this form of CO₂ is considered a biogenic carbon since it is sourced from organic waste. Therefore, we support anaerobic digestion activities in the region.

Should you need any technical questions please do not hesitate to contact me at serpil.guran@rutgers.edu.

Sincerely,



Serpil Guran, Ph.D.

Director

