

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AIR AND RADIATION ADMINISTRATION**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND
OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

The Maryland Department of the Environment, Air and Radiation Administration (ARA) received a permit-to-construct application from Mountaire Farms of Delaware, Inc. on July 19, 2024 for a grain drying and handling facility. The proposed installation is located at 14209 Wye Mills Rd., Wye Mills, MD 21679.

In accordance with HB 1200/Ch. 588 of 2022, the applicant provided an environmental justice (EJ) Score for the census tract in which the project is located using the MDE EJ Screening Tool. The EJ Score, expressed as a statewide percentile, was shown to be 42 which the Department has verified. This score considers three demographic indicators, minority population above 50%, poverty rate above 25% and limited English proficiency above 15%, to identify underserved communities. Multiple environmental health indicators are used to identify overburdened communities.

Copies of the application, the MDE EJ Screening Tool Report (which includes the score), and other supporting documents are available for public inspection on the Department's website at <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Permits/AirManagementPermits/Pages/index.aspx> (click on Docket Number 10-24). Any applicant-provided information regarding a description of the environmental and socioeconomic indicators contributing to that EJ score can also be found at the listed website. Such information has not yet been reviewed by the Department. A review of the submitted information will be conducted when the Department undertakes its technical review of all documents included in the application.

Pursuant to the Environment Article, Section 1-603, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Department will hold an informational meeting to discuss the application and the permit review process if the Department receives a written request for a meeting within 10 working days from the date of the second publication of this notice. A requested informational meeting will be held virtually using teleconference or internet-based conferencing technology unless a specific request for an in-person informational meeting is received. All requests for an informational meeting should be directed to the attention of Ms. Shannon Heafey, Air Quality Permits Program by email to shannon.heafey@maryland.gov or by mail to the Air and Radiation Administration, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21230. Further information may be obtained by calling Ms. Shannon Heafey at 410-537-4433.

Christopher R. Hoagland, Director
Air and Radiation Administration