Talking Points
Mountaire
January 29, 2018

- EPA and DNREC are working cooperatively to have Mountaire Farms supply a permanent alternate source of drinking water to residents in Millsboro, Delaware.
- Issuance of a DNREC Notice of Violation to the Mountaire Farms facility on November 2, 2017 placed Mountaire Farms in violation of an existing 2003 EPA 1431 Order on Consent to limit discharges that may contribute to levels of Nitrate in the ground water.
- Deliberative Process / Ex. 5
- Region III is concerned at the recent elevated in levels of nitrates in drinking wells around the Mountaire Farm in Sussex County that were identified in a DNREC NOV in November.
- Region III has an existing 1431 EPA Emergency Order on Consent in place for 7 residences around Mountaire that dates to 2003.
- Recent sampling has identified an additional 40-60 residences near the farm that may be impacted by ongoing nitrate pollution from wastewater spraying operations.
- Earlier this month, Mountaire announced that they were offering to assist 88 homeowners around the facility with alternative water sources (deeper wells, treatment or hook up to public water).
- Deliberative Process / Ex. 5
- In speaking with your staff, we understand that the NOV has been referred to the Attorney General for action.
- ORC has spoken with the Attorney General's Office about working cooperatively with them. These conversations will continue.
- What action is DNREC planning to take and what is the timeframe?
- Deliberative Process / Ex. 5