

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Mountaire Farms Announces Expansion of Food Processing and Distribution Operations in Robeson County, North Carolina.**

(Charlotte, NC. April 15, 2010). Mountaire Farms Inc., an international supplier of processed poultry products, announced they will expand operations in Robeson County. The company will invest over \$17 million and create 51 jobs within the next three years.

Mountaire Farms Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Mountaire Corp. in Arkansas. The company is a fully integrated operation that produces eggs through contract breeders, operates hatcheries in Maryland, Delaware and North Carolina, grows chickens through contract growers and runs its own feed mills. Mountaire Farms also processes, packages and distributes its products to retail, food services and institutional customers in more than 40 countries.

The company employs more than 2,400 workers in North Carolina, including operations in Chatham, Iredell, Montgomery, Robeson and Stanly counties. The company plans to increase production at its Lumber Bridge processing plant by adding cold freezer storage space. While wages will vary by job function, the new jobs will pay an average annual wage of \$27,553, not including benefits, which exceeds the Robeson County average annual wage of \$25,948.

“With help from the state, Robeson County and many others, expanding operations in North Carolina will provide us with the most cost-effective means of expanding production, improving logistics throughout our value chain and growing our position as a globally competitive food producer,” said Scott Varner, director of operations for Mountaire in North Carolina. “Our North Carolina complex is one of the largest in the nation. The plant in Lumber Bridge processes over 100 million chickens and produces over 780 million pounds of chicken products per year. By locating the new facility in North Carolina, we can take advantage of product-freezing technology to increase the quality of Mountaire’s export products.”

“We are very happy about Mountaire’s decision to expand in Robeson County and honored to have supported their efforts. The assistance provided by Robeson County was vitally important, as were the key roles played by state officials and the owners of the Red Springs & Northern Railroad. Mountaire will continue to be successful in Robeson County. The new jobs

and investment will be a welcome addition to the community,” commented Patric Zimmer, President of Development Advisors, LLC.

Key partners in the project who deserve special thanks for their efforts include the N.C. Department of Commerce, N.C. Department of Transportation, Robeson County, Progress Energy and the Red Springs and Northern Railroad.

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#### *About Mountaire Farms*

Mountaire Farms is a fast growing agricultural food processing company with more than 6,000 employees at facilities in Delaware, Maryland and North Carolina. They are committed to quality, service, value, and are well positioned to serve customers locally, nationally and worldwide.

For more information visit [www.mountaire.com](http://www.mountaire.com).

#### *About Development Advisors*

Development Advisors, LLC specializes in confidential location solutions for businesses including location analysis and selection, incentive analysis and negotiations and real estate advisory. Our experts help companies select the best location for their operations and maximize the IRR associated with their capital investments. Development Advisors has worked on expansions, relocations, realignments and consolidations, mergers and acquisitions throughout the United States since it's founding in 1996. Projects have ranged from \$2 million to over \$450 million in capital investment.

For more information visit [www.dai-locates.com](http://www.dai-locates.com).