

**HENRY A. WALLACE BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
NEW POULTRY FACILITY
5601 Sunnyside Avenue,
Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland**

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

September 2, 2004

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996, I approve the preliminary and final site and building plans to construct a new Poultry Facility, as shown on NCPC Map File No. 3212.10(38.00)-41442.

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The Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, has submitted preliminary and final site and building plans for a new Poultry Facility consisting of a breeding, research, and office space building within the existing barn and research area of the agricultural center.

The submitted project site and building plans provide a new concrete foundation and masonry block wall one-story structure. The building will also be constructed to provide research office areas and in total is comprised of approximately 28,000 square feet of floor area. Limited site parking and additional landscape mitigation measures are reflected in the final site development plans which establishes over two acres of new trees. The facility updates and establishes necessary new poultry breeding and hatching areas for chickens and turkeys.

The proposed project plans are in conformance with the revised master plan for the Beltsville campus, which was approved by the Commission in June 1996. The project, which involves less than 50,000 square feet of building floor area, would have no adverse impact on land uses or environmental resources of the general site. Six additional parking spaces are provided, including one handicapped accessible space.

The Department coordinated the project's review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act with the Maryland Historic Preservation Officer, and final approval for Section

106 purposes was achieved on April 1, 2003. In conformance with its NEPA compliance procedures, the Commission staff reviewed the submitted USDA determination of the action, finding that it adheres to NCPC's Categorical Exclusions per Section 8 of the Commission Environmental Procedures.

The submitted project is an existing operational function of the USDA facility, adjacent to similar existing animal barns and breeding facilities. The project is internal to the Beltsville campus and does not affect the boundary perimeter and is not a facility available for public entry or use.

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director