

DELAWARE BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE



DELAWARE STATE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

October 30, 2020

Lisa A. Vest
Hearing Officer, Office of the Secretary
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
89 Kings Highway
Dover, DE 19901

By email to: DNRECHearingComments@delaware.gov

RE: Docket #2020-P-0024

Dear Officer Vest,

As the chief officers for Delaware's leading business trade groups, we are writing to express our support for the Diamond State Port Corporation's proposed construction of a container port at the former Edgemoor site of DuPont and Chemours.

The construction of a new port would be the largest infrastructure project in Delaware in many, many years. It would create a job center at a site that is currently unused, stagnant and an environmental hazard.

Our organizations, state government and others spend a lot of time and effort recruiting and retaining businesses and jobs. A project like this, which would result in hundreds of construction jobs and 1,000 or more long-term port jobs, does not come along frequently. Creating diverse job opportunities is not easy and even more difficult when faced with a pandemic as we are now. A project of this scope will go a long way toward helping the economy of our city and state as we work to recover from the damage the virus has caused.

The DSPC has meticulously charted the course forward and has detailed a comprehensive plan that also considers the environment, the surrounding communities and the impact the new port would have on both in the future. Plans include using quiet, energy efficient equipment that would make the port community friendly and one of the most modern, innovative operations in North America.

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The State Chamber and the Business Roundtable are ready to support this effort in whatever way we can. Please let us know if we can answer any questions or concerns you may have. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Quaranta
President
Delaware State Chamber of Commerce

Bob Perkins
Executive Director
Delaware Business Roundtable