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## **Perdue AgriBusiness Secures Air Emission Offsets**

**BAINBRIDGE (Lancaster County, Pa.)** --- Perdue AgriBusiness has secured regional air emission offsets for its grain elevator and soybean crushing facility in Conoy Township, Lancaster County. The offsets, which are in addition to mandated environmental controls and advanced recovery technologies, exceed by at least 28 percent the proposed emissions from the facility, bringing a net benefit to regional air quality.

"These offsets are further evidence of our commitment to ensure that we construct and operate the most advanced, environmentally sound soybean processing plant in the country," said Gregory Rowe, Vice President of Grain Operations, Environment, Health & Safety.

Offsets are part of the Emission Reduction Credit system. An ERC is a credit earned by a company when it reduces air emissions beyond what is required, or from emission sources taken out of service. Those credits are offered on the open market to companies that need offsets. ERCs must offset potential emissions in a greater than 1-to-1 ratio, meaning the use of offsets guarantees a net reduction of emissions in the regional multi-state airshed.

In Pennsylvania, these federally mandated emission reductions must be verified and certified by the state Department of Environmental Protection. DEP held a hearing on Nov. 16 in Bainbridge to solicit comment on the department's plans to approve Perdue's proposed offsets. The offsets are separate from the air plan approval DEP granted in May, but will be incorporated into that previously received permit.

Under National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Pennsylvania may issue a permit to construct a new plant only if, among other requirements, the source complies with the Lowest Achievable Emission Rate (LAER). New sources cannot do anything that would worsen air quality; and, they must work in tandem with efforts to improve regional quality. ERCs are part of that effort.

Perdue's highly engineered plant will match the lowest permitted hexane emission rate of any soybean processing facility in the United States, with a solvent loss ratio of 0.125 gallons per ton. The required offsets are on top of mandated LAER control technologies.

Perdue's grain elevator and processing facility represent an investment of more than \$60 million in Pennsylvania agriculture and local communities. That investment will generate more than 150 construction jobs, 35 long-term jobs upon completion and an additional 500 jobs in crop production and transportation.

For more information, and to sign up for updates, visit [www.perdueagribusinesspa.com](http://www.perdueagribusinesspa.com).