

Poultry company wants to call Vineland home

Anthony V. Coppola, Published 4:17 p.m. ET Dec. 5, 2017 | Updated 6:02 p.m. ET Dec. 5, 2017

VINELAND - A poultry processing company has chosen Vineland over a Pennsylvania site for what it hopes becomes home to its new operation.

Vineland Poultry in November was approved for \$2.2 million in tax credits by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority under its Grow NJ program.

The award, which will be divided over 10 years, was a major deciding factor in Vineland Poultry picking Vineland instead of a facility in Frackville, Pennsylvania, James Hammerstedt, consultant for the company, told The Daily Journal.

The company is looking to locate in the former Vineland Kosher Poultry building, a 55,000-square-foot plant on 18 acres on South Mill Road that has been dormant for four years, according to the NJEDA.

Vineland Kosher Poultry stopped its operation at the plant Dec. 30, 2011.

The NJEDA project summary states Vineland Poultry purchased the building for \$500,000 and intends to invest \$715,000 to rehabilitate the facility and outfit it with new equipment.

The proposed plan calls for the creation of 40 jobs.

Vineland Poultry will slaughter, process and package poultry following the Halal method, which conforms to Islamic dietary standards. The company's main products will be whole chickens and chicken parts, according to the NJEDA.

Vineland Poultry has six owners, the project summary states, with one owning two similar companies in Jamaica, New York.

Hammerstedt said the company is working with a local bank and exploring the state's Urban Enterprise Zone program to secure additional funding. Vineland Economic Development Director Sandra Forosisky said the city is assisting in the process.

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