



**USDA Rural Development
Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program**

As of February 28, 2023

State	Senators	Representatives	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
CA	Dianne Feinstein Alex Padilla	Jerry McNerney (09)	Luus Family Corp dba New Stockton Poultry	\$1,678,458	Luus Family Corp, dba New Stockton Poultry (NSP), is a first generation Vietnamese-American family owned and operated business that sources poultry breeds and processing styles popular in many immigrant communities, including for use in certain Buddhist practices that require the head and feet to remain on the processed bird. The company is using MPPEP funds to expand processing operations through the purchase of an existing structure to support expansion. This project has the support of local and state government, poultry farmers, food service distributors and community stakeholders.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Alex Padilla	Jerry McNerney (09)	Yosemite Foods Inc	\$6,885,400	Yosemite Foods Inc. has a state-of-the-art, environmentally conscious, pork harvest facility in CA with existing additional harvest capacity that has, up to this point, not been utilized. The company is in a prime position to quickly expand production by utilizing this untapped capacity, and can expand production without having to expand harvest capacity or build a new harvest facility. The objectives of this project are: 1) Utilize existing capacity to harvest additional hogs daily, 2) Provide ethnic consumers with value-added pork products (consumers not normally targeted and served by major Midwestern meat processors) and 3) Provide additional jobs to the local community (a community that suffers from both high levels of unemployment and high levels of poverty).
IA	Charles Grassley Joni Ernst	Randy Feenstra (04)	Cherokee Locker Investment Inc	\$542,425	Cherokee Locker Investment Inc. is an existing meat processor located in Cherokee, IA located in a facility that is outdated. The company intends to build a new mixed species processing facility to significantly increase capacity and allow local producers to have their meat Federally inspected and sold in a local retail market and online. In addition to these Federal funds, part of this expansion effort is being financed, in part, through investments made by local livestock producers and community members.
IA	Charles Grassley Joni Ernst	Randy Feenstra (04)	Pure Prairie Farms Inc	\$6,963,725	Pure Prairie recently purchased a shuttered poultry plant in Charles City, Iowa, with the goal of returning hundreds of jobs to the small rural community and increasing poultry processing in the upper Midwest. The project sources directly from growers in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa, who are also shareholders and part owners in the company.



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IA	Charles Grassley Joni Ernst	Ashley Hinson (01)	Upper Iowa Beef LLC	\$8,871,440	Upper Iowa Beef, an independently owned beef harvest and processing facility in Lime Springs, Iowa, opened in 2017. The growth in demand for our products nationwide and globally since we began operations has necessitated an aggressive, multi-phase expansion of our facility to keep up. Our USDA-MPPEP proposal is to support core projects that directly target our current bottlenecks, allowing us to expand our capacity by over 50% and create dozens of new jobs and millions of dollars in premium revenue for independent livestock producers.
ID	Mike Crapo James Risch	Mike Simpson (02)	Riverbend Meats LLC	\$25,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to offset the cost associated in building a new state of the art, vertically integrated, environmentally friendly beef processing plant. Riverbend Meats LLC is located in Idaho Falls, Idaho and has been in operation for 30 years. In addition to the new facility it also includes extensive custom equipment and the installation of nine miles of mainline gas pipe. The new facility is expected to double the plant's processing capacity from 300 to 600 head of cattle per day thus increasing the price ranchers receive for their cattle and decreasing the price consumers pay for high quality, pasture raised, natural beef.
IL	Richard Durbin Tammy Duckworth	Mike Bost (12)	Saline River Farms LLC	\$6,884,976	Saline River Farms is a beef and pork processing facility project in the mid to late stages of planning and development. This beef and pork processing plant will be able to accommodate hundreds of either species per day and provide an important outlet for producers in the region. The plant will be federally inspected and plans are in place to request Grading Services. The plant will also include a small retail store for local purchases of both Saline River Farms products and other local products as well as shipping of online orders.



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KY	Mitch McConnell Rand Paul	Brett Guthrie (02)	Marksbury Farm Foods LLC	\$779,080	Marksbury Farm Foods LLC is planning a expansion to their slaughter and grind production areas. This will include a building addition, new slaughter and grinding machinery, as well as an additional carcass cooler and all the included refrigeration and rail systems. The project will double slaughter capacity and more than double processing capacity over the next 3-5 years, allowing the company to offer more local farms and small businesses a better choice in processing options beyond the traditional players. The workforce will increase by 25 as the new capacity comes online bringing stable, living wage jobs to the Lancaster, KY area.
LA	Bill Cassidy John Kennedy	Clay Higgins (03)	Processors LLC	\$7,058,234	Processor's Inc. is one of the earliest pioneers in the U.S. catfish industry, incorporated in 1976. The company currently operates at maximum processing capacity for farm-raised catfish. The project would allow Processor's Inc to increase processing capacity by 30% over the next four years by adding a new facility, modernizing processing equipment with more cost-effective, sanitary, and environmentally neutral equipment, and allow for market expansion through the development of new value-added catfish products.
MD	Ben Cardin Chris Van Hollen	Kweisi Mfume (07)	Holly Poultry LLC	\$2,015,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Holly Poultry LLC purchase equipment for the company's upgraded and expanded processing facility. Holly Poultry is a family owned and operated poultry further-processing facility in Baltimore, Maryland. This project is expected to add approximately 200 jobs by 2025 and increase processing capacity by nearly 2 million pounds of further-processed poultry per week.



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MI	Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters	Bill Huizenga (02)	Michigan Turkey Producers Cooperative	\$1,531,204	The Rural Development investment will be used to offset the costs associated with the purchase and installation of an updated hot water system, wastewater treatment facilities, and four new refrigerated trailers. The processing plant located in Grand Rapids, recently underwent an expansion that automated slaughter and deboning processes. The improvements are needed to further support the expansion. Prior to the expansion Michigan Turkey Producers Cooperative had the capacity to process 5.3 million turkeys annually. Following the expansion and the utility upgrades made possible with the grant, they will have the capacity, with an additional shift, to process almost 10 million turkeys per year. The additional capacity will allow the plant to be back-up for other slaughter plants of similar size in neighboring states should the need arise.
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith	Michelle Fischbach (07)	Benson + Turner Foods Inc	\$962,954	This Rural Development investment will be used to build a new, federally inspected, meat processing facility and retail space for meat products. The funds will also cover start-up costs, equipment, building expenses, and working capital. Benson + Turner Foods Inc is a new business that is planning on building a meat processing business located near Waubun in Mahnomon County, Minnesota. The facility will be located on the White Earth Indian Reservation. This project will create 8 jobs
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Jason Smith (08)	Zimmerman Meats LLC	\$730,000	Zimmerman Meats LLC, operates a meat harvest and processing plant in rural southern Missouri, employing 20 people and serving local producers, wholesale clients, and retail consumers across the region. The business is in the midst of a long-range expansion project, including shifting from state to federal inspection. In addition to increasing the slaughter capacity, Zimmerman Meats is preparing to increase its ability to package and further process meat products by ten-fold to better access value-added opportunities.



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MS	Roger Wicker Cindy Hyde-Smith	Steven Palazzo (04)	Cutting Edge Meat Company LLC	\$905,273	Cutting Edge Meat Company is establishing a new USDA inspected slaughter and fabrication plant in Leakesville, MS. The company processes its own farm-raised beef, plus beef and pork from a variety of independent producers across MS, AL, LA, and FL. The company currently has a six-month backlog for additional processing. The goal of the project is to increase weekly processing capacity and expand services offered to farmer-producers and small meat companies in the region. Specifically, separate coolers will be added for fully cooked and raw product, new rooms will be added for packaging and cooking product, additional equipment to increase product through put and improve worker safety will be added in the slaughter and processing room, and hire more employees.
MS	Roger Wicker Cindy Hyde-Smith	Bennie Thompson (02)	Home Place Pastures LLC	\$508,784	Home Place Pastures currently owns and operates an USDA inspected slaughter and processing facility in the middle of its farming operation, which produces grass-fed beef and pastured pork. Home Place Pastures runs an established weekly distribution chain to restaurants, schools, hospitals, and retail accounts in Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Tennessee. The company also sells direct to consumers through their website, monthly box subscribers, on-farm restaurant and butcher shop, and farmers markets. With this award, Home Place will substantially increase cold storage and processing, allowing them to significantly expand their business while also adding value to small family farms by providing a premium reliable market for pasture raised hogs.
MT	Jon Tester Steve Daines	Matt Rosendale (At Large)	Montana Premium Processing Cooperative	\$291,900	Montana Premium Processing Cooperative (MPPC), a start-up cooperative, created in partnership with the Montana Farmers Union and Farmers Union Industries, will use MPPEP funds to provide independent producers in Montana with an option for a local USDA inspected meat processing facility in an area that is currently without Federally inspected processing.



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ND	John Hoeven Kevin Cramer	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	South 40 Beef LLC	\$471,525	South 40 Beef LLC is a USDA-inspected beef processing plant in Mott, North Dakota. Grant funds will be used to increase cooler and fabrication space to increase capacity, and the expansion will result in more than doubling the amount of cattle processed per month and a 50% increase in workforce. This investment will add local capacity and reduce the time and distance cattle producers currently have to travel.
NE	Deb Fischer Ben Sasse	Don Bacon (02)	Greater Omaha Packing Company Inc.	\$19,982,400	Greater Omaha Packing is a 3rd generation, privately owned company located in Omaha, Nebraska, that procures cattle primarily from independent producers in IA and NE. Greater Omaha Packing processes 2,400 head of cattle daily for customers across the country and to 70 nations worldwide. The company is taking a phased approach to increase slaughter and processing throughput from 2,400 cattle per day to 3,100 head per day, which equates to an additional annual production of 195,000 cattle per year, involving equipment purchases, automation systems, and facility improvements. The expansion will create 275 jobs.
NE	Deb Fischer Ben Sasse	Mike Flood (01)	Lot 279 LLC	\$688,011	Lot 279 LLC has been selling beef products in direct to consumer retail since 2016. In an effort to capitalize on the expanding interest in family farms building their own beef brands, Lot 279 intends to build a federally inspection portion cutting and further processing facility for use by at least three family-owned cattle producers who are seeking to create their own brands of value added beef products. The company will provide fee based processing and other services; portioning and grinding services, processing and manufacturing of meats for sale to wholesale or retail customers. The facility will help ensure that small and mid sized kill facilities that are operational or being built in the region will be utilized fully.



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NJ	Robert Menendez Cory Booker	Josh Gottheimer (05)	Goffle Road Poultry Farm LLC	\$4,203,646	New Goffle Road Poultry is located in Wyckoff, NJ with the closest plant of similar processing located in central Jersey. There are no facilities in New York or Connecticut that provide the kind of servicing and processing that Goffle Road Poultry provides. Goffle Road Poultry seeks to expand the existing USDA inspected processing facility and retail operation to be six times the size of the current facility with a separate retail store. The company will also create a satellite pickup and drop-off area for other farms within and tangential to New Jersey, which is currently unavailable and highly desired by producers. Expansion will allow the company to expand further into the organic marketplace by allowing for efficient separation of organic vs. non-organic product. Halal market reach, a growing need in the area, will also be expanded including cut-up products and parts associated with halal markets.
OH	Sherrod Brown Rob Portman	Bill Johnson (06)	R&C Packing Inc.	\$1,058,928	R&C Packing Inc. has been serving the needs of its community in Bidwell, OH since 2004 operating a custom livestock harvest and butcher processing facility. While this facility has served the company well for many years, increased demand from current customers, potential new customers, and increasing industry standards are driving the need for a newly constructed facility. The new facility will include processing plant; barn and cold storage space, and retail space. The company projects to increase processing by 50% by May 2026.



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OH	Sherrod Brown J.D. Vance	Shontel Brown (11)	International Food Solutions Inc	\$9,575,250	This Rural Development investment will be used to help offset the costs associated with the redevelopment and expansion of a vacant building in Cleveland Ohio. The expansion will allow International Food Solutions, Inc to expand the building into a processing plant that will provide 60 million pounds of poultry processing capacity. The project will create 227 new jobs paying an above average wage of \$22.75/hour in addition to benefits. The expansion will include cold and dry storage, and two poultry processing lines. Poultry will be supplied by Simmons Foods, Pilgrim s Pride, and Peco Foods. This project will also expand capacity by vertically integrating Ohio poultry producers to processors. International Food Solutions, Inc (IFS) is a certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) that produces prepared meals for over 5300 K-12 public school lunch and other institutional end users since 2008. IFS is an approved commodity processor and at least 80 percent of the company's protein business is USDA donated chicken. The majority of the public-school children IFS serves are economically disadvantaged and under free and reduced school lunches. IFS currently sells approximately 15 million pounds of poultry products annually, all of which are co-manufactured. During the pandemic, IFS experienced poultry supply delays and disruptions which frustrated fulfilling customer commitments.
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	Ralph Norman (05)	Prestage Farms of South Carolina LLC	\$24,951,753	This Rural Development investment will be used to help offset the costs associated with purchase of equipment and associated operating expenses. Prestage Farms of South Carolina LLC, a family owned and operated company in business since the early 1980s, has constructed a technologically advanced poultry processing plant with enhanced vertical integration within the company. Using European air-chilled technology the plant will process turkey with increased sanitation and longer shelf life compared with traditional processing plants. The plant will be highly automated and more efficient than a traditional turkey processing operation, creating a significant increase in output. The facility located in Kershaw County is expected to process 8,000,000 birds per year and will create 292 new full-time jobs.



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SD	John Thune Mike Rounds	Dusty Johnson (At Large)	North Prairie Butchery LLC	\$2,209,643	North Prairie Butchery, LLC (NPB) is a proposed brand new small beef and pork combination plant with the capacity to process more than 100 animals per week. They currently ranch near Faulkton, South Dakota. This modern, federally inspected facility will offer livestock producers the ability for custom harvest, packaging, and labeling. In addition, the business will offer to purchase locally raised, market-ready cattle and hogs to supply retail and wholesale business. The plant is expected to be fully operational by late 2023.
SD	John Thune Mike Rounds	Dusty Johnson (At Large)	CNF Enterprises LLC	\$3,300,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to help offset the costs associated with the construction of a new 30,000 square foot processing facility in New Underwood, South Dakota. The new facility will have the capacity to process 4,000 head per year including beef, pork, lamb, and buffalo. This operation will provide custom USDA inspected meat processing. CNF Enterprises is a new company that was formed to help meet the increasing demand for high quality locally sourced meat products.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	Louie Gohmert (01)	BRK Meats LLC	\$512,265	BRK Meats is a family-owned beef processor in East Texas. BRK Meats will add an in-house slaughter facility and a distribution center to increase volume of shipping and expand processing options for more than 200 independent cattle producers. This expansion project includes both improvements to an existing facility as well as a new location, substantially increasing the overall processing capacity of the operation as well as building out capabilities for processing value-added products. These improvements will more than double BKR's employee base and will support economic development in two rural Texas communities.



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VA	Mark Warner Tim Kaine	Ben Cline (06)	Shenandoah Valley Organic LLC	\$3,567,302	This Rural Development investment will be used to help support a \$17.8 million expansion of Shenandoah Valley Organic's existing organic chicken processing facility ('Liberty') in Harrisonburg Virginia. Operating since 2014, the Liberty plant has recently been processing an average of 335,000 birds per week. The demand for broader chicken and organic chicken categories have expanded and provided Shenandoah Valley Organic LLC an opportunity to expand their capacity. The improvements will help alleviate bottlenecks in the processing steps. The grant will help offset the costs associated with equipment purchases, new conveyor lines, building and site modifications, and a new wastewater treatment system. When the improvements are completed Shenandoah projects to increase their processing capacity from 335,000 to 630,000 birds per week. These investments will enable Shenandoah Valley to improve their customer choices by providing more options in processing and creating 300 new jobs for the area.
VT	Patrick Leahy Bernard Sanders	Peter Welch (At Large)	VT Livestock Slaughter and Processing	\$1,096,655	Vermont Livestock Slaughter & Processing connects hundreds of farmers in Vermont and the Northeast with the individuals, families, schools, and businesses they supply. Meat processing is currently a bottleneck in the region with many producers having to wait significant periods for the service. With their MPPEP investment, they are now prepared to revitalize and modernize their multi-species facility, tripling their throughput, and positioning the company for succession planning to an employee-owned model.
WA	Patty Murray Maria Cantwell	Rick Larsen (02)	Island Grown Farmers Cooperative	\$815,891	Island Grown Farmers Cooperative is a small farmer owned co-op based Skagit County WA. It has operated a Mobile Processing Unit (MPU) under USDA inspection for 20 years and recently began work on a permanent plan. With the help of the MPPEP funding, IGFC would expand the number of animals processed and finally expand their cooperative membership to other producers. Completing the construction will greatly expand processing capacity, allow the producer owners to reach more consumers via farmers markets, food co-ops, restaurants, and direct to consumer sales from all across Washington State.



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

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WI	Ron Johnson Tammy Baldwin	Tom Tiffany (07)	Crescent Meats LLC	\$1,599,925	This Rural Development investment will be used to offset the costs associated with expanding the Crescent Meat LLC facility in Cadott, Wisconsin. The 19,400 square foot expansion project will allow Crescent Meats to increase production, add skilled jobs, improve food safety, and streamline processes by adding additional office, dock and storage space. Crescent Meats processes cattle, hogs, lambs and non-amenable species to producers across the nation. They produce cuts of meat, ground meat, and value-added products including summer sausage, sticks, jerky, brats, hot dogs and patties. This expansion project will add an additional 35 jobs.