**WHAT IS THE ANIMAL WASTE TECHNOLOGY FUND?**

The Maryland Department of Agriculture’s (MDA) Animal Waste Technology Fund provides grants to companies that demonstrate new technologies on farms and provide alternative strategies for managing animal manure. These technologies generate energy from animal manure, reduce on-farm waste streams, and repurpose manure by creating marketable fertilizer and other products and by-products.

**Grant Recipient**
Biomass Heating Solutions, Inc. (BHSL)
Annapolis, MD

**Benefitting Farm**
Murphy Farm
Dorchester County

**Grant Amount**
$970,000

**Issue Date**
October 29, 2014

**Animal Manure Managed**
Poultry

**SCOPE OF PROPOSAL**

This project uses electricity generating technology (fluidized bed combustion) to convert poultry litter into energy that will be used to heat two poultry houses.

The farmer, Robert Murphy, is exploring markets for the high-phosphorus ash by-product. Ninety percent of the nutrients in the poultry litter produced by 8 poultry houses will have alternative uses.

Fluidized Bed Combustion (FBC) is a technology that has been used in power plants since the 1980s. Fluidized beds suspend solid fuels on upward-blowing jets of air during the combustion process. The result is a turbulent mixing of gas and solids. The tumbling action, much like a bubbling fluid, provides more effective chemical reactions and heat transfer.

Biomass Heating Solutions is an Irish corporation with a proven track record of installing and operating these systems in Europe. This project has the support of Mountaire, the poultry company that Mr. Murphy grows chickens for, and will help farmers address challenges in managing manure resources.

**For More Information**
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“**Our innovative Fluidized Bed Technology is already transforming the poultry industry in the UK and we look forward to emulating our sustainable food production model whilst protecting the environment. Our solution for on-farm conversion of manure to heating, cooling and electricity is a proven alternative to land spreading or large scale power plants.”**

Declan O’Connor
BHSL Chief Executive Officer