

***Ellen Kullman Dedicatory Remarks***

***May 23, 2007***

***Grand Opening: The DuPont Nature Center at Mispillion Harbor Reserve***

On behalf of DuPont's sixty-thousand global employees, I would like to thank everyone who has participated in taking the DuPont Nature Center from concept to completion.

In particular, I would like to thank Governor Minner and Secretary Hughes for serving as such visionaries as we join together to launch this window into the natural beauty and ecological diversity of the Delaware Estuary.

Today I'd like to speak not only as a leader from DuPont but also as a third generation Delawarean.

Places like the DuPont Nature Center speak to our hearts and unite us together to provide a vital legacy for future generations.

The Nature Center provides us with a place where people in our state – and beyond – can become more aware of the role we all play in preserving the environment.

By offering the public an intimate view of this vibrant ecosystem, the Nature Center can ignite passion for environmental stewardship on the river and the bay.

And passion is the fuel that drives action.

At DuPont, this passion drives our commitment to sustainability and safety. It is part of our DNA.

Recently, we announced major goals to further reduce our footprint and bring products and services to market that promote sustainability today and tomorrow throughout the world.

And nothing is more important than making sure that takes place in our own home state – Delaware.

That's why today also marks the official launch of "Clear into the Future."

Clear into the Future is a DuPont initiative to enhance the beauty and integrity of the Delaware River Estuary for generations to come.

Clear into the Future is a DuPont "first." This initiative marks the first time we've focused our science and our passion on a specific ecosystem – the ecosystem where DuPont was born.

Our vision for the estuary is one in which the working river and the living river flow together along one sustainable course.

Clear into the Future applies DuPont science to the protection of the Delaware Estuary.

For example, all around the new Nature Center you can see boats and sheds used by Delaware Estuary fishermen. You can also see spawning beaches used by horseshoe crabs.

For generations, estuary fishermen have used the crabs as bait. But crabs used as bait can't return next year to lay or fertilize eggs. That's bad news for the horseshoe crabs – to be sure – but it's also bad news for the migrating shorebirds who feed on them.

Clear into the Future is helping University of Delaware researchers develop a bait substitute for horseshoe crabs. If successful, the alternative bait project will protect horseshoe crabs, the migratory birds that feed on their eggs and the livelihoods of estuary fishermen.

Clear into the Future is also providing estuary research fellowships to graduate students at the University of Delaware, Drexel and Rutgers whose research helps assess the state of estuary life, vegetation and the overall ecosystem.

The research funded by these fellowships will bridge the past and the future of scientific inquiry about the estuary. It will help us

understand and better protect aquatic animals and ecosystems in Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

In addition, Clear into the Future is funding research and conservation initiatives led by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary and other respected non-profit organizations.

These conservation projects will nurture estuary wetlands and attempt to restore migratory fish to habitats – like the Brandywine Creek – where they haven't been seen for more than a century.

They will be used to help restore fish populations and wetlands and to build identification systems to help preserve critical ecological resources.

We also have a robot. How many corporate initiatives have robots? We call him Professor Green, and he teaches elementary school children about environmental stewardship on the estuary.

And that's just the beginning.

In the coming weeks and months, Clear into the Future will announce more science initiatives, more educational grants and more projects. Our scope will be estuary-wide: From Trenton to Cape Henlopen.

Obviously, Clear into the Future can't improve the estuary on its own. We can lead. We can inspire. But in the end – if we want to succeed – we must collaborate.

That's why it's so gratifying to see so many of our partners and local community members here today.

Together, not only can we preserve the estuary we see, but we attain the estuary we envision.

Again, thank you all for making a dream come true with your ideas, hard work and passion.

I look forward to seeing you here in the future and working together to create a proud legacy for our families, our communities and our state.

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