

**CITIZENS  
AGAINST NEW  
SIMMONS  
FACILITY**



## **MEDIA ALERT**

### **WEDNESDAY: Will the Benton County Planning Board Support a Mega-Chicken Operation Over Community Health & Safety?**

*Concerns over the impact of the proposed \$300 million Simmons poultry complex fuel local opposition & spark questions of health, environmental, quality of life & economic risks*

**WHAT:** The continuation of the tabled December 6<sup>th</sup> Benton County Planning Board public hearing issue evaluating the variety of community issues associated with the new industrial-sized Simmons Foods poultry plant proposed for construction on U.S. 59 between Gentry & Decatur.

Local residents and members of the community group [Citizens Against New Simmons Facility](#) will attend and provide public comments.

**WHEN:** **Wednesday, December 20, 2017 | 6:00 p.m. CT**

**WHERE:** Benton County Administration Building | Quorum Courtroom, 3rd Floor Suite 324  
215 East Central Avenue, Bentonville, AR 72712

**WHO:** Members of the Citizens Against New Simmons Facility  
Benton County residents  
Benton County Planning Board

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**Residents of Benton County are concerned -- and they should be.** Their public health, air quality, water security, property values, roadways and peace of mind are all in jeopardy. Simmons Foods isn't proposing a poultry facility – it's planning the development of a massive poultry processing facility that will change the quality of life in Benton County. A few basic facts on the proposed Simmons operation:

- The plant will process enough animals to produce a whopping 800 million pounds of chicken per year
- It will operate 24 hours a day with trucks moving on and off the plant site every 6 minutes
- The operation will use more than 12 million gallons of water per week
- It will need a labor force of approx. 1,500 employees, the vast majority being low-wage positions
- There is no current plan to conduct a traffic study or an environmental impact report
- The Simmons plan contains a faulty parking scheme that does not meet Federal safety standards

Benton County residents expect the Planning Board to consider the real-world impacts of a major processing plant sited in their County as they make their decision on behalf of all residents and future generations of Northwest Arkansas.

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