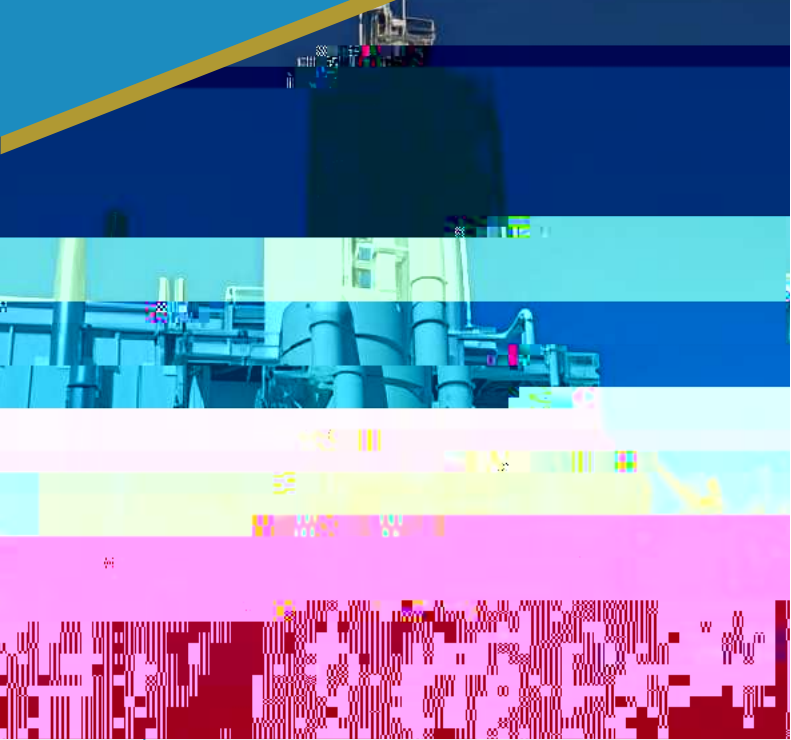


Nestlé Purina has recently completed a \$182 million facility expansion with the help of Waco, Inc. The Nestlé “LDEL Project” produces **dumping-type cat li er from locally mined Bentonite clay substrate found in King William County, Virginia. Bentonite clay-based cat li er**



- Project Name: Nestlé Purina LDEL Expansion
- Project Manager: James Davis
- Project Superintendents: Harold Downey / Israel Santos
- Project Value: \$3,020,000
- Completion Date: May 2023

Waco's scope of work included installing all the plumbing, the drain piping, and the HVAC system. The HVAC system required extensive ductwork for the plant ventilation system, which included connections to the many air handling units, VAV boxes, louvers, and exhaust fans. Waco had to rig and lower several large pieces of air handling equipment into place by cranes on the upper floors of the facility before the roof was installed. This required precise coordination with the structural steel contractors and general contractor during the early phases of the project, months before these units would be mechanically and electrically connected. The Waco team installed a 180-ton Trane chiller on a structural steel platform just outside of the production area with several hundred feet of chilled water piping connecting each of the mechanical rooms. Waco's insulation division provided the proper thermal insulation on all the ductwork, chilled water piping, plumbing, and process water piping. The process water piping required electric heat tracing, which Waco's insulation team designed and installed.

The entire project was completed with no recordable or lost-time injuries by any site contractors or Nestlé personnel. As with most plant expansions of this kind, equipment delivery coordination, critical crane lifts, mobilizations, and general construction activities all had to be done while the existing facility was in full operation.

The market for cat litter is expected to grow by 6% a year, with close to 2.4 million tons expected to be produced in 2024. This new facility will help Nestlé Purina capture a larger share of that demand.

