March 4, 2010

TO: Interested Persons - Upper Midwest Marketing Area

SUBJECT: Final Decision to Amend All Federal Milk Marketing Orders

A final decision was recently issued by the Secretary of Agriculture which proposes that the definition of a producer-handler in all Federal milk marketing orders be amended. A summary of the changes made by this decision and other related materials are enclosed.

The decision was published in the Federal Register on March 4, 2010. An electronic version of the decision is available on our web site at www.fmma30.com. A paper copy of the document can be obtained by calling Harold Ferguson of my staff toll free at 1-800-301-8224, Ext. 231.

The decision specifies that a referendum will be conducted to determine whether producers favor its issuance. Materials are currently being mailed to those who will be participating in the referendum.

For further information about the decision, please contact Gino M. Tosi or Jack Rower, Senior Marketing Specialists, Order Formulation and Enforcement Branch, USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, Stop 0231-Room 2971, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0231, (202) 720-7183, e-mail addresses: gino.tosi@ams.usda.gov and jack.rower@ams.usda.gov.

/s/ H. Paul Kyburz
Market Administrator

Enclosures