TO: Interested Persons - Upper Midwest Marketing Area

SUBJECT: Order Amending the Order – Effective February 1, 2006

An order amending the order regulating the handling of milk in the Upper Midwest Marketing Area was signed December 5, 2005 by Lloyd C. Day, Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service. The document was published in the Federal Register on December 9, 2005. The amended order will become effective February 1, 2006.

This order adopts without change the interim final rule concerning pooling standards and transportation credit provisions. Specifically, the order continues to ensure that producer milk originating outside the states that comprise the Upper Midwest Order (Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan) is providing consistent service to the order’s Class I market, and also eliminates the ability to pool, as producer milk, diversions to nonpool plants outside of the states that comprise the Upper Midwest Marketing Area. Additionally, this order permanently adopts a proposal to limit the transportation credit received by handlers to the first 400 miles of applicable milk movements.

The amendments have been in effect on an interim basis since July 1, 2005 and are based on the record of a public hearing held at Bloomington, Minnesota in August 2004.

More than the required number of producers in the Upper Midwest Marketing Area has approved the issuance of the final order amendments.

A paper copy of the order amending the order can be obtained by calling Harold Ferguson of my staff toll free at (888) 301-8224, Ext. 231. An electronic version of the document is available on our web site at www.fmma30.com/Homepage/OrderActions.HTML

A separate decision will be issued at a later time that will address proposals concerning the depooling and repooling of milk, temporary loss of Grade A status, and increasing the maximum administrative assessment.

/s/ H. Paul Kyburz
Market Administrator