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UPPER MIDWEST MARKETING AREA

Federal Order No. 30

Agricultural Marketing Service Dairy Programs

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October 21, 2009

TO: Interested Persons - Upper Midwest Marketing Area

SUBJECT: Issuance of Recommended Decision

Enclosed is a recommended decision recently issued by the Secretary of Agriculture for all Federal milk orders, including the Upper Midwest Order. A press release is also enclosed. These documents are also available on our website at:

http://www.fmma30.com/Homepage/OrderActions.html.

This decision recommends that the producer-handler definitions of all Federal milk marketing orders be amended to limit exemption from pooling and pricing provisions to those with total route disposition of fluid milk products of 3 million pounds or less per month. The exempt plant definition would continue to limit disposition of Class I milk products to 150,000 pounds or less per month.

The recommended decision is based on a hearing held May 4-19, 2009 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Comments must be submitted on or before December 21, 2009. All comments received will be posted electronically without change, including any personal information provided. Comments (three copies) should be filed with:

Hearing Clerk U.S. Department of Agriculture STOP 9200 – Room 1031 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20250-1031

You may electronically submit comments at the Federal eRulemaking portal: <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a>. Reference should be made to the title of the action and docket number.

/s/ H. Paul Kyburz Market Administrator

**Enclosures**