



UPPER MIDWEST MARKETING AREA
Federal Order No. 30

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February 11, 2002

TO: Interested Persons - Upper Midwest Marketing Area
SUBJECT: Tentative Decision on Simultaneous Pooling of Milk

A tentative decision for the Upper Midwest Marketing Area was recently issued by the Secretary of Agriculture. The decision proposes to adopt, on an interim final and emergency basis, provisions that would eliminate the ability to simultaneously pool milk on the Upper Midwest Federal Milk Order and a State-operated milk order that has marketwide pooling. Additionally, the order would be amended by establishing a limit on the amount of milk that can be diverted to nonpool plants from pool distributing plants regulated under the order. The proposed amendments are based on the record of a public hearing held at Bloomington, Minnesota on June 26-27, 2001.

A paper copy of the decision can be obtained by calling Harold Ferguson of my staff at (888) 301-8224, Ext. 231. An electronic version of the document will also be available on our web site at www.fmmampls.com.

Cooperative associations will be polled to determine whether producers favor the issuance of the order. The order may not be made effective unless cooperative associations representing at least two-thirds of the eligible producers favor its issuance.

Interested persons have until 60 days after the decision is published in the Federal Register to submit comments on this decision. Publication in the Federal Register is expected to be February 14, 2002. Comments (6 copies) should be filed with the Hearing Clerk, Room 1083, South Building, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

/s/ H. Paul Kyburz
Market Administrator