



Deutsch Käse Haus, Inc.

Ms. Angela C. Snyder
Office of the Deputy Administrator
Poultry Programs
AMS, USDA
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
STOP 0256, Room 3932 –South
Washington, D.C. 20250-0256

May 7, 2004

Re: proposed exemption for organic products from
commodity promotional assessments.

Dear Ms. Snyder,

I was quite surprised to hear that the USDA is proposing to exempt the so called “organic” products from all commodity promotion assessments. I would like to go on record as being strong opposed to this change. I have two simple reasons for my opposition:

- 1 If you exempt “organic” products from marketing or promotional assessments, every product that has some “unique” characteristic will soon file for their exemption as well. If we make cheese out of “100% Amish milk”, can I exempt out of all promotional assessments on milk? By exempting one category of products because of one slight differing characteristic will jeopardize all current promotional funding programs.
2. “Organic” products benefit from the promotional programs, why should they not help fund them? The price of all organic products is set like everything else, “what the market will bare”. Most organic products are prices just above the going price for their non-organic counter parts. Therefore, the organic products are fully benefiting from the current promotional programs.

Again, I would strongly oppose such a change. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Bylsma
General Manager

