UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

IN RE:

MILK IN THE NORTHEAST AND OTHER MARKETING AREAS;

Class III/IV FORMULAS
Dockets: AO-14-A77

DA-07-02

RESPONSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FOODS ASSOCIATION TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL FILING OF THE STATE OF MAINE IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION TO CONTINUE THE HEARING WITH RESPECT TO

PROPOSAL 18

The State of Maine's November 16, 2007 supplemental filing, in support of its

September 14, 2007 request for a continuance so that the hearing can be re-opened to

receive additional evidence and testimony regarding its proposal No. 18, does not

overcome the problems IDFA identified in its September 21, 2007 opposition to that

request. As IDFA has explained, the dairy industry needs an expeditious decision on the

pending proposals. Holding open the hearing for any reason would delay that decision-

making.

The State had more than ample opportunity to submit material in support of its

proposal, and if as the State indicates that material is insufficient to support its proposal

as to how the manufacturing class pricing mechanisms should be changed, USDA should

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not hold up its consideration of the other proposals for such changes.

DC: 2483395-6

Respectfully submitted,

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