

Before the Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

USDA
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Hops Produced in Washington,
Oregon, Idaho and California;

Hearing on Proposed Marketing
Agreement and Order No. 991

Docket AO-F&V-991-A3; FV03-991-01

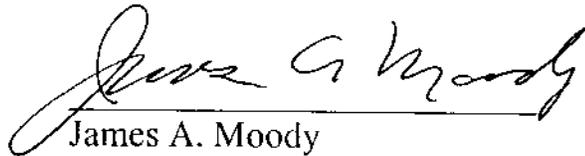
Motion to Extend Time for Post-Hearing Filings

Counsel for the Hop Marketing Order Opposition Group requests a brief extension of time pursuant to § 900.15(c) from January 30 to February 16 to file post-hearing findings, conclusions, briefs, and other comments. The basis for the request is that counsel has lost approximately three weeks of work time due to health issues since the close of the hearing; court-imposed deadlines in the cotton "speech tax" case in the Court of International Trade and *US ex rel. Hayes v. CMC*; and the need to prepare several scientific witnesses for a hearing February 9 by the Institute of Medicine on vaccine safety. Counsel is a solo practitioner and in most cases has no alternative for shifting workload to other counsel. Counsel does not believe this brief extension will unreasonably delay ongoing AMS review of the hearing record and exhibits. In addition, the annual Hop Growers of

America convention is January 27-29 in San Diego, making it more difficult for members of the industry to assist in finalization of comments.

The undersigned contacted counsel for the various parties by phone and email, and the following have graciously consented: Breedan Monahan (for proponents), Michael Harmonis (for the Justice Department), and Mathew Carswell (for Anheuser Busch). Sharlene Deskins has also indicated that AMS does not object to an extension.

Respectfully submitted,



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January 28, 2004

Certificate of Service

On January 28, 2004, I served a copy of the attached by fax on counsel at the following numbers:

Michael Harmonis, 202-307-2784

Mathew Carswell, 314-577-9862

Brendan Monahan, 509-~~435~~-6880 453

Sharlene Deskins, 202-690-2091

