USDA SETS HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ALL FEDERAL MILK ORDERS

Washington, D.C., Feb. 7, 2007 – The U. S. Department of Agriculture today announced that it will hold a national public hearing to consider proposals seeking to amend the Class III and Class IV product price formulas applicable to all Federal milk marketing orders. The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Feb. 26, 2007, at the Holiday Inn Select - Strongsville, 15471 Royalton Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136.

USDA requested proposals from the industry that would examine all features of the Class III and Class IV product price formulas. Both producer cooperatives and milk product manufacturers submitted proposals.

The hearing notice will be published in the Feb. 9 Federal Register. Copies of the hearing notice may be obtained from the USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, STOP 0231 - Rm. 2971, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-0231. The hearing notice is available on AMS' web site: www.ams.usda.gov/dairy.

Anyone interested in participating in the hearing should notify a USDA official upon arrival. The hearing notice and additional information is available from the following market administrator offices:

Northeast: Erik F. Rasmussen
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
P.O. Box 51478, Boston, MA 02205-1478
Tel. (617) 737-7199; email: erasmussen@fedmilk1.com

Appalachian: Harold H. Friedly, Jr.
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
P.O. Box 18030, Louisville, KY 40261-0030
Tel. (502) 499-0040; email: freidly@malouisville.com

Florida and Southeast: Sue L. Mosley
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
P.O. Box 491778, Lawrenceville, GA 30049
Tel. (770) 682-2501; email: smosley@fmmatlanta.com

Upper Midwest: H. Paul Kyburz
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
Suite 210, 4570 West 77th St., Minneapolis, MN 55435-5037
Tel. (952) 831-5292; email: pkyburz@fmma30.com

Central: Robert E. Vander Linden
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
P.O. Box 14650, Shawnee Mission, KS 66285-4650
Tel. (913) 495-9300; email: robert.vanderlinden@fmmacentral.com

Mideast: David Z. Walker
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
P.O. Box 5102, Brunswick, OH 44212
Tel. (330) 225-4758; email: dwalker@fmmaclev.com

Pacific Northwest and Arizona: James R. Daugherty
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
1930-220th St., SE., Suite 102 Bothell, WA 98021-8471
Tel. (425) 487-6009; email: jdaugherty@fmmascattle.com

Southwest: J. Richard Fleming
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
P.O. Box 110939, Carrollton, TX 75011-0939
Tel. (972) 245-6060; email: sw.order@dallasma.com

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USDA PUBLISHES SUPPLEMENT TO NOTICE OF FEB. 26 PUBLIC HEARING


An additional proposal, which seeks to establish cost-of-production surcharges that manufacturers could include in the selling price of their products but would not be included in the determination of NASS survey prices for cheese, butter, nonfat dry milk and dry whey, will be considered at the hearing.

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Tel. (913) 495-9300; email: robert.vanderlinden@fmncentral.com

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