

600 KeyBank Building 202 South Michigan Street Post Office Box 4577 South Bend, IN 46634 www.jonesobenchain.com

Telephone: (574) 233-1194 Facsimile: (574) 233-8957

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May 18, 2005

Joyce A. Dawson Hearing Clerk United State Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9200

Re: Milk in the Mideast Marketing Area Docket Nos. AO-166-A72, DA-05-01

Dear Ms. Dawson:

I am writing to request a brief extension of time, to and including June 6, 2005, within which to submit a reply brief on behalf of White Eagle, et al. If this request for an extension of time is granted, the reply would be limited to the issues raised in Proposal 2 only. In support of this request, I would note that counsel for White Eagle, John H. Vetne, is presently out of the country on a long-planned vacation, and has been since on or about May 14, 2005. He does not have regular access to either a computer or the internet during his trip. I would further note that the deadline for the filing of reply briefs has not yet expired, and I do not believe that any other request for an extension has been made relative to this matter by counsel for White Eagle, et al.

Counsel Dean Foods, Mr. Charles English, has no objection to this request for an extension of time. Counsel for Dairy Farmers of America, Mr. Marvin Beshore, has no objection to a one-week extension of time, but has no authority from his client to consent to the extension requested above.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly ours.

JTV:dip

May 18, 2005

ce: Honorable Peter M. Davenport (via e-mail only)
Dana Coale (via e-mail only)
Gino Tosi (via e-mail only)
Erin Taylor (via e-mail only)
Marvin Beshore, Esq. (via e-mail only)
Charles M. English, Esq. (via e-mail only)
Ryan K. Miltner, Esq. (via e-mail only)
Al Ricciardi, Esq. (via e-mail only)
Garrett Stevens, Esq. (via e-mail only)
Brian Hill, Esq. (via e-mail only)