



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

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Washington, DC
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TO: Joyce A. Dawson
Hearing Clerk
Office of the Hearing Clerk

FROM: Dana H. Coale *Dana H. Coale*
Deputy Administrator
Dairy Programs

SUBJECT: Memorandum to the Record Regarding Ex Parte Communications

At the invitation of Dairylea Cooperative, I attended their 97th annual meeting on October 12-13, 2004, to become acquainted with various industry participants. During the meeting, I attended presentations given to the membership and was present for a speech presented by Gary Hanman, President and CEO of Dairy Farmers of America. In addition to my attendance, Erik Rasmussen, Northeast Market Administrator; David Walker, Mideast Market Administrator; Harold Friedly, Appalachian Market Administrator; Richard Sarna, John Poole, and Shawn Boockoff, Northeast Assistant Market Administrators; and Peter Fredericks, Northeast Assistant to the Market Administrator were present. No matters subject to *ex parte* restrictions were discussed with any individuals during the course of the meeting.

Since my appointment as Deputy Administrator in September 2004, I have attended several public industry meetings. These have included National Milk Producers Federation Annual Meeting, International Dairy Foods-Dairy Forum, and the Southern Dairy Conference. During the course of these meetings, I have presented procedural updates on current Federal milk marketing issues. However, neither I nor any other Dairy Programs officials have attended presentations that address Federal milk marketing order issues subject to *ex parte* communication restrictions.

I have also met with various industry representatives at their request. During the course of these meetings, I have presented procedural updates on current Federal milk marketing issues. No matters subject to *ex parte* restrictions have been discussed.

I did not attend the Dairy Farmers of America annual meeting held March 23-24, 2005, in Kansas City, Missouri. Several Departmental staff members did attend the meeting including Erik Rasmussen, Northeast Market Administrator; David Walker, Mideast Market Administrator; Harold Friedly, Appalachian Market Administrator; Sue Mosley, Southeast and Florida Market Administrator; H. Paul Kyburz, Upper Midwest Market Administrator; Robert Vander Linden, Central Market Administrator; Cary Hunter, Southwest Assistant Market Administrator; Gayle Ely, Southeast and Florida Assistant

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Market Administrator; William Wise, Arizona-Las Vegas and Pacific Northwest Assistant Market Administrator; and John Poole, Northeast Assistant Market Administrator. No matters subject to *ex parte* restrictions were discussed with any individuals during the course of the meeting.