



Agricultural Marketing Service

USDA Public Meeting on Proposed California Federal Milk Marketing Order



When and Where is the Hearing?

- 9 a.m. to 12 Noon (PT), Wednesday, February 22, 2017
- Clovis Veterans Memorial District
The Liberty Room
808 4th Street
Clovis, CA 93612

What Should I Expect?

- The public meeting will be webcast. The link will be posted at www.ams.usda.gov/caorder before the hearing begins.
- The meeting is expected to finish by 12 Noon (PT).
- The meeting will be transcribed by a court reporter. The transcript of the meeting will be made part of the public record of the California FMMO rulemaking proceeding.
- The transcript of the meeting will be published at www.ams.usda.gov/caorder approximately 2 weeks after the meeting.

What is the Meeting Agenda?

- USDA officials will:
 - ▶ Review the rulemaking process.
 - ▶ Review the provisions contained in the recommended California FMMO.
 - ▶ Review how the public can submit comments for consideration.
 - ▶ Answer questions from the audience about how the proposed California FMMO described in the recommended decision would operate.

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How Can I Submit Questions Prior to the Meeting?

- For those unable to attend the meeting in person, questions can be submitted prior to the meeting.
- All questions should be emailed to Californiainfo@ams.usda.gov by Thursday, February 16, 2017.
- Individual questions will not be read at the meeting.
- USDA officials will group emailed questions into primary topics that will be addressed in the presentation.
- All individual email submissions will become part of the record of this rulemaking proceeding.

How Will the Question and Answer Session be Conducted?

- USDA officials will answer questions about how the proposed California FMMO described in the recommended decision would operate, as well as respond to questions about how to submit comments on the recommended decision.
- USDA officials will answer questions about the primary topics submitted via email.
- Individuals attending in person will be able to ask questions during the meeting.
- USDA officials will not answer any questions related to the regulatory impact analysis released in connection with this proceeding.
- Only USDA officials will answer questions.

What Happens Next?

- Public comments can be submitted through www.regulations.gov until 90 days after publication in the Federal Register.
- All public comments can be read online at www.regulations.gov.
- USDA will consider all comments submitted and issue a Final Decision.
- Dairy farmers potentially covered by a California FMMO would vote on its adoption. A “Yes” vote by more than two-thirds of the dairy farmers voting or dairy farmers representing two-thirds of the milk volume accounted for in the voting process is needed to approve the order.
- USDA employees are under ex parte restrictions until the rulemaking process is completed. These rules legally prohibit USDA employees from engaging in off-the-record conversation discussing anything other than procedural matters with anyone having an interest in the proceeding.