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March 17, 2008

To: Interested Parties, Appalachian Marketing Area

From: Market Administrator, Louisville, Kentucky

Subject: **USDA Announces Interim Order on Amendments to the Appalachian, Florida and Southeast Federal Milk Orders**

On March 14, 2008, the U. S. Department of Agriculture issued an interim order that temporarily adjusts the Class I pricing surface of the Appalachian, Southeast and Florida marketing orders. The interim order is based on testimony and evidence given at a public hearing held at Tampa, FL, May 21-23, 2007.

In addition, this order amends certain features of the touch-base, diversion limit standards and transportation credit provisions for the Appalachian and Southeast Federal milk marketing orders. Other proposals concerning administrative assessments, seeking to increase the maximum administrative assessment from the current 5 cents per hundredweight (cwt) to a maximum of 8 cents per cwt for the Appalachian, Florida and Southeast marketing orders were addressed in a separate recommended decision.

The interim order was published in the March 17 Federal Register. The amendments to the Class 1 pricing adjustments will become effective on May 1, 2008. All other amendments are effective March 18, 2008.

Public comments and exceptions to the tentative final decision, which was published February 25, 2008, are due on or before April 29. USDA will consider the comments and exceptions and issue a final decision.

Additional information may also be obtained from this office by calling (502) 499-0040, or e-mail friedly@malouisville.com.



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