

**United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Programs**

Market Administrator

**Federal Order No. 6 – Florida Marketing Area
Federal Order No. 7 – Southeast Marketing Area**

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May 20, 2005

TO: Interested Parties – Florida and Southeast Marketing Areas

FROM: Sue L. Mosley, Market Administrator; Atlanta, GA

SUBJECT: Partial Recommended Decision for Appalachian and Southeast Marketing Areas

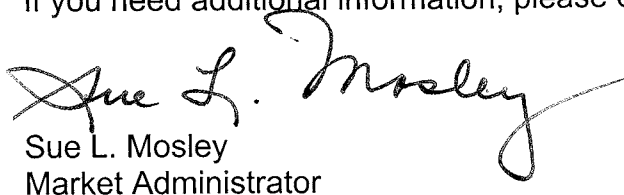
The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced a decision that recommends adopting proposed amendments to the Appalachian and Southeast Federal milk marketing orders. This decision is based on record evidence of a public hearing held in February 2004 in Atlanta, Ga.

This decision recommends expanding the Appalachian milk marketing area to include 25 unregulated counties and 14 unregulated cities in Virginia and eliminating the ability to simultaneously pool the same milk on the Appalachian or Southeast order and a state-operated milk order that has marketwide pooling. The decision also recommends amending the transportation credit provisions of the Appalachian and Southeast orders to increase the maximum rate of assessment by 3 cents per hundredweight (cwt) to \$0.095 per cwt and \$0.10 per cwt, respectively.

This decision does not recommend adopting a proposal that would merge the Appalachian and Southeast milk marketing areas into a single order or a proposal that would create a new "Mississippi Valley" milk order by splitting the Southeast marketing area. Proposals regarding the producer-handler provisions of the Appalachian and Southeast orders will be addressed in a separate decision.

The partial recommended decision was published in the May 20, 2005, Federal Register, a copy of which is enclosed. **Interested persons are provided 60 days to file comments in response to the decision.** Comments should be sent to David Jamison, Acting Chief, Order Formulation and Enforcement Branch, Dairy Programs/AMS/USDA, Room 2968-S, Washington, DC 20250.

If you need additional information, please contact this office at 770-682-2501.


Sue L. Mosley
Market Administrator