UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service Dairy Program

FEDERAL MILK ORDERS 124 & 131

4835 E. Cactus Road, Ste. 440 Scottsdale, AZ 85254 Phone: (602) 547-2909

Fax: (602) 547-2906

November 12, 2024

To: Handlers, Cooperatives, and Interested Parties

From: Lisa Wyatt, Market Administrator, Arizona and Pacific Northwest Marketing Areas

Subject: AMS Issues FMMO Final Decision

1930-220th Street SE, Ste. 102

Email: fmmaseattle@fmmaseattle.com

Bothell, WA 98021

Phone: (425) 487-6009

Fax: (425) 487-2775

On November 12, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) issued a final decision on its website proposing to amend the uniform pricing formulas applicable in all 11 Federal milk marketing orders (FMMOs). The decision has not yet been published in the Federal Register and this is not the official version of the proposed rule. Once the official version is published in the Federal Register, it will be available at https://www.federalregister.gov.

For additional information, see the published Press Release published on the USDA website at: https://www.ams.usda.gov/press-release/usda-issues-final-decision-amendments-all-eleven-federalmilk-marketing-orders.

Following the publication of the final decision and before any changes take effect, AMS will conduct producer referendums in each of the 11 FMMOs. Producers whose milk was pooled on an FMMO in January 2024 are eligible to participate in the referendum. They will have the opportunity to vote in favor of or opposition to the FMMOs as proposed to be amended in the final decision.

AMS will host three public webinars to further inform stakeholders of the proposed amendments and producer referendum process. These webinars will take place November 19 and November 25 at 11 a.m. ET and November 21 at 3 p.m. ET. A link to access the webinars will be provided in advance on the AMS hearing website. In addition, AMS supplementary educational documents have been posted on the hearing website.

Copies of the final decision, information on the producer referendum process, and the entire hearing record can be found on the hearing website or obtained from USDA/AMS/Dairy Program; STOP 0225 - Rm. 2530; 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0225. Procedural questions can be submitted to fmmohearing@usda.gov or phone: 202-720-4392.