

Release No. 091-07
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USDA SETS HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE APPALACHIAN, FLORIDA AND SOUTHEAST FEDERAL MILK ORDERS

Washington, D.C., May 7, 2007 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced that it will hold a public hearing to consider proposals to amend the Appalachian, Florida, and Southeast Orders. The hearing will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, May, 21, 2007, at the Sheraton Suites Tampa Airport, 4400 W. Cypress Street, Tampa, Fla., 33607.

The proposals seek to amend the Appalachian, Florida, and Southeast Orders by temporarily adjusting the Class I pricing surface for each county within each of the three milk marketing orders until such time that USDA is able to comprehensively address the Class I pricing surface on a national scale. Proposals also include changing the diversion percentage limits, the producer delivery days, and the transportation credit provisions of the Appalachian and Southeast orders. Other proposals would change the maximum rates for each of the three orders the market administrator may charge for the administration of the orders from 5 cents per hundredweight to as much as 8 cents per hundredweight.

The hearing notice will be published as a proposed rule in the May 8 Federal Register. Copies of the hearing notice may be obtained from the USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, STOP 0231 – Room 2971-A, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0231. The hearing notice is available on AMS' website at: www.ams.usda.gov/dairy.

The hearing notice and additional information is available from the following market administrator offices:

Appalachian: Harold H. Friedly, Jr.
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
P.O. Box 18030, Louisville, KY 40261-0030
Tel. (502) 499-0040; email: friedly@malouisville.com

Florida and Southeast: Sue L. Mosley
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
P.O. Box 491778, Lawrenceville, GA 30049
Tel. (770) 682-2501; e-mail: smosley@finmatlanta.com

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