

June 22, 2005

The Honorable Raul M. Grijalva  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1440 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0307

Dear Congressman Grijalva:

Thank you for your letter of June 10, 2005, expressing your opposition to findings made by the Department of Agriculture (USDA) concerning the regulatory status of certain producer-handlers in the Pacific Northwest and Arizona-Las Vegas milk marketing areas.

USDA appreciates the importance of the issues discussed in your letter regarding the regulatory status of producer-handlers in Federal milk marketing orders. The comment period on the recommended decision closed on June 13, 2005. Please be assured that we will consider your comments carefully before a final decision is issued.

Thank you for your interest in the Federal milk marketing order program.

Sincerely,



Mike Johanns  
Secretary