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From: Jared Gardner [gardner.236@osu.edu]

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 7:37 PM

To: AGSEC -USDA

Subject: please don't take my family's milk away

Please. Before you let the big agro-business dairy determine state policy with regard to smaller local, family-owned dairies, please make sure you hear all the facts. My family has been very excited to finally have local-owned dairies making milk the way it should be made. When we buy milk from our local dairy, Snowville Creamery, they can tell us which cows, which day the milk came from. They can tell us that they did not receive any hormones, that the milk was lightly pasteurized, and that the profits stay in the community. The policies you are being asked to enact work against that kind of communication, support for small businesses, consumer-choice, and transparency. Please: pause, and make sure you hear all sides of this story. For too long big agro-business has been able to determine our diets, and only now are we starting to return things to their proper order: where consumers and farmers talk to each other like, well, citizens. Don't take that away from us!

best,

Jared Gardner
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Ohio State University