



1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 3071-S, STOP 0201
Washington, D.C. 20250-0201

February 29, 2016

Charles M. English, Jr.
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
1919 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20006-3401

Dear Mr. English:

On September 29, 2015, the Organic Trade Association (OTA) and its members submitted a formal request to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for a hearing to amend the ten existing Federal milk marketing orders (FMMOs). The proposal would provide a credit to organic fluid milk handlers against their monthly FMMO pool obligations, dependent upon the price paid to dairy farmers for organic milk.

USDA is continuing to review the market concerns raised and the information provided in your proposal, as well as gather additional relevant information to evaluate your request. If OTA has any additional information, please submit it for inclusion in our review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Elanor Starmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Elanor Starmer
Acting Administrator