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2006 APR 28 AM 10:28

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April 12, 2006

**RE: Comments with respect to Proposed Amendments to 7 CFR Part 1032  
(Docket No. AO-313-A48; DA-04-06)**

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I operate a small dairy farm in \_\_\_\_\_, in \_\_\_\_\_ County. I market my milk through Central Equity Milk Producers of Mountain Grove, MO. I joined Central Equity in \_\_\_\_\_, because the cooperative provided me with an alternative to joining a large cooperative where I would become nothing but a number, with no voice, in my cooperatives operation. Central Equity is operated by dairy farmers for dairy farmers. We have no joint ventures, no subsidiaries and no lobbyists.

I have been made aware of some changes to the milk marketing order (Federal Order 32) that have been proposed by Dairy Farmers of America and Dean Foods, two well known names in our industry. My name is not well known in the dairy industry, but it is here in my home town. I am just a small businessman, trying to make an honest living, provide for my family, and maintain my independence. I am concerned that adoption of some of these changes will jeopardize the very existence of Central Equity Milk Producers and threaten the continued operation of my family's farm.

Joe Hylton, our General Manager, says that if the new rules are adopted, I will be required to ship one day's production several hundred miles every month so I can continue to be a part of the federal order. The cooperative will have to pay hundreds of dollars to haul my milk those extra miles and they will not receive any additional income. Our cooperative distributes all income to the membership each month, which means that this additional hauling will be taken from my milk check. Joe says that the reason for this new expense has nothing to do with supplying milk for bottling, but rather to prove my willingness to supply milk to my neighbors. While I would be delighted to supply milk to my neighbors, DFA would rather supply them with milk from more distant places.

I understand why Dairy Farmers of America wants full control over whose milk is delivered to their customers. I can understand their desire to eliminate all marketing options for independent dairymen, such as myself and my fellow Central Equity members. I cannot understand why the United States Department of Agriculture would provide assistance to their efforts.

I am a small businessman and the decisions I make each day are made in the best interest of my family and my farm. If membership in a large cooperative offered better opportunity, I would have joined that cooperative long ago. I am opposed to any changes in the marketing order that increases my operating costs and threatens my ability to provide for my family. I understand that if this recommended rule change is accepted by your department and put to a vote by dairy farmers that it will be too late to prevent implementation of this regulation; as Dairy Farmers of America has sufficient clout to assure passage.

Therefore, I respectfully ask that the "touch-base" provision be removed from your revised order language before you publish your final decision.

Sincerely,

cc: Sen. James Inhofe  
Sen. Tom Coburn  
Rep. Dan Boren