

May 10, 2023

Bruce Summers  
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Administrator Summers:

On behalf of the Kentucky Dairy Development Council's board of directors, I am writing in support of the comprehensive proposal for modernization of the Federal Milk Marketing Order system submitted to you on May 1, 2023, by the National Milk Producers Federation.

KDDC is a statewide dairy organization that all 370 Ky. dairy farmers belong to. We also have many allied members who serve our dairy industry. Our mission is to promote Ky's dairy farmers and industry. We also are involved in education and many other activities that will improve the lives of our dairymen.

The NMPF plan represents an important and essential approach toward the systemwide changes needed to ensure a successful update of the nation's federal milk order system, which is critical to ensuring a stable, orderly supply of milk across the United States.

NMPF's petition is the result of nearly two years of meetings and discussions within the dairy industry and represents a consensus of the nation's dairy farmers and its processing dairy cooperatives. This includes meaningful engagement with producer associations like ours. While its specific provisions will have different impacts on literally every dairy farm in America, this proposal will benefit all producers and represents the best path for the U.S. dairy industry moving forward.

Our organization urges you to move forward with a national federal order hearing that includes all aspects of the NMPF proposal. Because of the extensive length of time that has passed since these provisions were last updated, and the complex interactions between these various provisions of milk-marketing orders, each individual component is essential to the success of the whole. Please help dairy farmers advance this industry by moving forward with the NMPF proposal. A brighter future for our farms, families and rural communities relies upon it.

Sincerely,

H.H.Barlow

Executive Director

cc: Dana Coale  
Erin Taylor