2228 N. Main St. Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

July 11, 2023



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

Dear Administrator Summers:

I am pleased to relay that the North Carolina Dairy Producers Association Board of Directors unanimously voted to support the comprehensive proposal submitted by the National Milk Producers Federation, including both the Initial Petition (5/2/23) and Addendum (6/20/23), for modernization of the Federal Milk Marketing Order system.

NCDPA is a statewide dairy organization that represents all dairy farmers in North Carolina. We also have many allied industry members supporting our dairy industry. Our mission is to support dairy farmers and promote a thriving dairy industry in our state and throughout the entire Southeast region.

The National Milk Producers Federation plan is a collaborative framework to modernize policy to reflect today's dairy industry and marketplace. These suggested changes are critical to dairy farmers in the Southeastern states because of our high class I utilization.

Our organization urges you to move forward with a national hearing that includes *all* aspects of the NMPF proposal. We understand there are many pieces to the reforms it is important all are passed in their entirety to ensure a stable, orderly supply of fresh milk across the United States.

Sincerely,

Reid Smith President, North Carolina Dairy Producers Association