



FEDERAL MILK ORDER
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March 1, 2024

TO: Northeast Order Pool Handlers
FROM: Shawn M. Boockoff, Market Administrator
SUBJECT: Temporary Dumping of Surplus Milk – *March 15, 2024 – April 15, 2024*

Pool handler Land O'Lakes, Inc. (LOL) requested a temporary authorization allowing pool handlers to dispose of surplus milk at a farm or non-plant location, with said milk retaining the status of pooled producer milk. The period covered by this action would include March 15, 2024, through April 15, 2024.

The LOL request is in response to a large customer in the region that has informed suppliers they will be shutting down their plant for an extended period of time during a period that normally includes increasing seasonal milk supplies. The request cites the potential for impact to not only LOL but other dairy cooperatives in the area. Pool handlers Agri-Mark, Inc.; Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.; Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative, Inc.; and Upstate Niagara Cooperative, Inc. submitted remarks either in support of, or did not oppose, LOL's request.

In consideration of the aforementioned factors, the Market Administrator agrees to temporarily authorize the pooling of milk disposed of or "dumped" at farm or other non-plant locations for the requested period of **March 15, 2024–April 15, 2024**, provided the following conditions are met:

- Handlers and/or their producers that utilize this temporary policy must have been pooled on the Northeast Order for all their commercially marketed production for the months of July through November 2023.
- The milk must have been picked up at the farm, measured and sampled for payment. The tanker test will be a weighted average of the producer tests.
- Notification should be given to the Market Administrator's office by the next business day, or as soon as practicable, when the milk is dumped. The milk will be priced at the location that the dump occurred, therefore, at pool time the farm dumps should be reported separately, grouped by location zone. At pool time a separate list must be submitted of all producers whose milk was dumped, along with the component tests of the applicable milk (if available), and the physical location and address, including county, of where the milk was dumped.

Any such requested dumps will be subject to audit verification by the Market Administrator as a condition to be included as pooled producer milk during the respective pool period.