



FEDERAL MILK ORDER
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January 12, 2024

TO: Northeast Order Pool Handlers
FROM: Shawn M. Boockoff, Market Administrator
SUBJECT: Temporary Dumping of Surplus Milk – *December 22, 2023 – January 6, 2024*

Pool handler National Farmers Organization (NFO) 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 requested for this temporary authorization is the Christmas-New Year's holiday period. Specifically, the period covered by this action would include December 22, 2023, through January 6, 2024.

In their request, NFO noted last minute holiday closings or reduced volumes combined with lack of alternatives accepting milk created an inability to get milk processed. Polling some handlers to determine the nature of markets across the marketing area, pool handlers Agri-Mark, Inc.; Cayuga Marketing LLC; Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.; Land O'Lakes, Inc.; and Upstate Niagara Cooperative, Inc. responded either in support of, or did not oppose, NFO'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 **December 22, 2023 – January 6, 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 as soon as possible. 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.