



FEDERAL MILK ORDER
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May 5, 2023

TO: Northeast Order Pool Handlers
FROM: Shawn M. Boockoff, Market Administrator
SUBJECT: Temporary Dumping of Surplus Milk – *May 10, 2023 – July 17, 2023*

Pool handler Lowville Dairy Producers Cooperative, Inc. (Lowville) 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 May 10, 2023, through July 17, 2023.

In their request, Lowville noted continued labor shortages, capacity losses at processing plants, milk processing equipment issues, and shortages of drivers resulting in an inability to get milk processed. The overall capacity loss due to the stated issues is occurring during a time of strong seasonal milk production. Lowville expects the challenging marketplace to exist during the upcoming holiday periods of Memorial Day and July 4. Pool handlers Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.; Land O'Lakes, Inc.; Upstate Niagara Cooperative, Inc.; and Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association submitted remarks either in support of, or did not oppose, Lowville'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 **May 10, 2023– July 17, 2023**, 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 2022.
- 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.