

Thank you for submitting a proposal in response to our request for additional proposals to amend the Class III and Class IV product price formulas. The Department of Agriculture (Department) recognizes the importance of Class III and IV product pricing formulas and is hosting a public information session to ensure that all proposals received are fully understood. The information session will begin at 8:30 a.m. on December 5, 2006 in the USDA Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Room 107-A, Washington, DC, 20250.

The purpose of the pre-hearing information session is for interested parties to learn about the intent of proposals that have been submitted to amend Class III and Class IV product price formulas and how the proposals would accomplish that intent. The session is intended to clarify the intent and effect of proposed amendments. The session will enable proponents to better prepare testimony and evidence in support of, or in opposition to, proposals that may be included in the Hearing Notice announcing the Class III/IV hearing.

The session will not become part of an official hearing record and will be conducted outside of ex-parte rules allowing government officials to freely discuss the proposed amendments. Participation in the information session is strongly encouraged for all parties that have submitted proposals to ensure that the proposals are understood by the Department. Participants should be prepared to present their proposal(s) and answer questions from a panel of Department representatives.

In accordance with security requirements at USDA Headquarters facilities you will need to provide the name(s) of all representatives attending the information session. Please RSVP to Jill Hoover at (202) 720-9368, or by e-mail at: jill.hoover@usda.gov of your intent to participate no later than December 1, 2006.

All proposals that were submitted along with additional information regarding the session are available at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/dairy>.

Sincerely,

Gino M. Tosi
Associate Deputy Administrator for
Order Formulation and Enforcement
Dairy Programs