



**United States Department of Agriculture**  
Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Programs

**Market Administrator**

**Federal Order No. 6 – Florida Marketing Area**  
**Federal Order No. 7 – Southeast Marketing Area**

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Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 491778  
Lawrenceville, GA 30049

January 22, 2004

TO: Interested Parties – Southeast Marketing Area

SUBJECT: Announcement of Notice of Hearing – Appalachian and Southeast

**USDA SETS HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE APPALACHIAN AND  
SOUTHEAST MILK ORDERS**

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced it would hold a public hearing to consider proposals to amend the Appalachian and Southeast Federal milk marketing orders. The hearing will begin at 1 p.m. on February 23 at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel, 4736 Best Road, Atlanta, GA.

The hearing will consider a proposal to merge the Appalachian and Southeast milk marketing areas and proposals to expand the proposed merged order marketing area. Another proposal would create a "Mississippi Valley" order by breaking the Southeast order into two orders. USDA will also consider additional proposals that seek to amend certain other terms and provisions of the orders.

The hearing notice will be published as a proposed rule in the January 23 Federal Register. Copies of the hearing notice may be obtained from the Atlanta Market Administrator's office, 1550 North Brown Road, Suite 120, Lawrenceville, GA 30049 Tel. 770-682-2501. A copy of the hearing notice is also available on the Atlanta Market Administrator's web site, at: [www.fmmatlanta.com](http://www.fmmatlanta.com). Click on 'What's New', then on 'Notice of Hearing – Appalachian and Southeast'.

A limited number of rooms have been reserved at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel (404-762-7676 or 888-627-7211) under '*U. S. Department of Agriculture*' at the rate of \$109 per night plus tax. The rooms will be available at this rate until February 17, 2004.

Those who wish to testify and present exhibits should prepare four copies of such exhibits for submission to the Presiding Officer. Providing additional copies for others attending the hearing would be appreciated.

As of this Notice of Hearing, Department employees involved in the decision-making process are prohibited from discussing the merits of the hearing issues on an ex parte basis with any person having an interest in the proceeding. Procedural matters are not subject to the above prohibition and may be discussed at any time. If additional information on the hearing is required, contact this office at 770-682-2501.

Sue L. Mosley  
Market Administrator



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