

April 22, 2006

Mr. Whitney A. Rick

RE: Docket No. DA-06-04

I am writing concerning the mandatory 15 cents per cwt. milk check assessment for national dairy promotion. As an independent milk producer in the fluid milk market, I have seen our percentage of milk sales steadily decline over the years. Also, the farmer's share of the overall food dollar has been shrinking for many years.

The numbers for supply and demand just do not match up. In my opinion, the money for advertising has brought little results as per person consumption has declined. As an independent milk producer, the freedom to vote on this issue, one person, one vote is denied to me.

Sincerely,



James E. Saal, President & CEO
Sterling Heights Dairy, LLC
7852 Easton Road
Sterling, Ohio 44276

