



April 28, 2006

Whitney A. Rick, Chief
Promotion and Research Branch
USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs
Stop 0233 Room 2985-S
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-0233

RE: National Dairy Promotion and Research Program; Section 610 Review, Docket No. DA-06-04, page 9978 of the Federal Register dated February 28, 2006.

Family Dairies USA is a Dairy Cooperative with 3,700 members headquartered in Madison Wisconsin. On behalf of Family Dairies USA, I am submitting the following comments on the National Dairy Promotion and Research Program and the 15-cent per cwt. milk check assessment used to fund this program.

The current Farm Bill includes a requirement that importers of dairy products pay an assessment equivalent to the mandatory 15-cent per cwt. that U.S. dairy farmers pay to fund the National Dairy Promotion and Research Program. This provision has not been implemented and it is the position of Family Dairies USA that either the assessment on imports is implemented as directed by the Farm Bill or the 15-cent per cwt. assessment on U.S. dairy farmers is discontinued.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Desjarlais
General Manager
Family Dairies, USA

