



April 5, 2011

Mr. Daniel Smith Mr. Paul Christ Maine Dairy Industry Association 64 Maine Street, Post Office Box 801 Montpelier, Vermont 05601

Dear Messrs. Smith and Christ:

Enclosed is the information requested in your March 4, 2011, letter, a copy is enclosed. This information builds on an earlier request from May 4, 2009, concerning competitive price zones based on handler presence and Herfindahl-Hirschmann Index numbers. The data, as requested, are the original December 2008 data collected by Federal Order 30 from all 10 Federal milk orders. These data are pooled milk by county listed according to handler. Since California is a State order separate from Federal orders, data for California are not part of either request.

Table 1 lists, for each milkshed, the largest county-level Herfindahl-Hirschmann Index for counties that make up 25 percent of the milk pooled on any Federal order. As indicated in the footnotes, counties in the Northwest and Southwest that would have comprised at least 25 percent of the milk production in those areas would have included some counties with fewer than three handlers. The data for these counties are restricted and omitted. Tables 2-8 list, for each milkshed, the counties which make up the results shown in Table 1. These counties, for all the milksheds, are also shown on the enclosed map.

Dr. Corey Freije of the Upper Midwest Order staff in Minneapolis has derived the milkshed data results on behalf of Dairy Programs. I hope you find these data helpful. If you have questions or require further assistance please contact Corey at 952-277-2355 or <a href="mailto:cfreije@fmma30.com">cfreije@fmma30.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Dana H. Coale Deputy Administrator Dairy Programs

**Enclosures**