



August 30, 2017

Secretary Karen Ross
California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Draft Stand-Alone Quota Implementation Plan

Dear Secretary Ross:

On behalf of the family dairy producer members of the California Dairy Campaign (CDC), I write in support of the draft stand-alone Quota Implementation Plan put forward by the Milk Pooling Producer Review Board. We commend you for your leadership in engaging the board to finalize a stand-alone quota plan because this process has enabled dairy producers from around the state to discuss, debate and vote upon a proposal that will ensure that the value of the state quota program remains intact under the proposed federal milk marketing order for California.

Given the significant value of the quota program and the investments that dairy producers have made in this program over many years, CDC believes it is critical that the stand-alone Quota Implementation Plan maintains the value of the quota program. The draft stand-alone Quota Implementation Plan put forward by the board is consistent with the current quota program administered by CDFA and will maintain the value of quota under the proposed federal milk marketing order for California.

We again commend you for your leadership in reaching out to dairy producers to seek their views about how the state quota program would continue to operate under the proposed federal milk marketing order for California. As was evidenced by the large number of dairy producers at the April 4th California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) meeting in Modesto, the quota program is important to dairy producers across the state. We firmly believe that the recommended draft stand-alone Quota Implementation Plan proposed by the board will ensure that the state quota program will operate in a manner consistent with the current quota program under the proposed California federal milk marketing order.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the stand-alone Quota Implementation Plan put forward by the Milk Pooling Producer Review Board and look forward to continuing to work with CDFA on issues that are important to dairy producers throughout California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Augusto", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joe Augusto
President
California Dairy Campaign