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August 14, 2003

Honorable Dennis C. Wolff, Secretary Department of Agriculture 211 Agriculture Building 2301 North Cameron Street Harrisburg, PA 17110

Re: Regulation #2-141 (IRRC #2293) Department of Agriculture Milk Sanitation

Dear Secretary Wolff:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved the subject regulation today. Our Order is enclosed and will be available on our website at <u>www.irrc.state.pa.us</u>.

We appreciate the joint effort that went into producing a regulation that meets the criteria and intent of the Regulatory Review Act.

Sincerely,

Alvin C. Bush Vice Chairman wbg Enclosure cc: Honorable N

cc: Honorable Mike Waugh, Chairman, Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Honorable Michael A. O'Pake, Minority Chairman, Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Honorable Arthur D. Hershey, Majority Chairman, House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Honorable Peter J. Daley, II, Democratic Chairman, House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION APPROVAL ORDER

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held August 14, 2003

Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman Daniel F. Clark, Esq. Arthur Coccodrilli Murray Ufberg, Esq.

Regulation No. 2-141 Department of Agriculture Milk Sanitation

On September 18, 2002, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Department of Agriculture (Department). This rulemaking amends 7 Pa. Code §§ 59.1 and 59.22. The proposed regulation was published in the September 28, 2002 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on July 2, 2003.

Pasteurized milk containers are required to be labeled with a "sell-by" date. This regulation amends existing procedures and standards to extend the "sell-by" date by three days. It also exempts highly processed pasteurized dairy products from the sell-by date requirement.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Department (31 P.S. § 660c) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

This regulation is approved.



Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman