



# Legislative Watch

Issues important to today's dairy farmers

## Murkowski Resolution Fails, Senate's Next Greenhouse Gas Steps Unclear

In June, the Senate failed to pass Sen. Lisa Murkowski's (R-Alaska) Resolution of Disapproval that would have prevented the Environmental Protection Agency from moving forward with greenhouse gas regulations under the Clean Air Act. Those potentially regulated could range from the largest textile factory and coal-fired power plants, to possibly even small dairy operations. In fact, if these efforts ultimately move forward, nearly 99 percent of all U.S. dairy farms could be hit with the new EPA regulations.

With the new regulations now looming, many in Congress are looking to move ahead with Sen. Rockefeller's legislation (S. 3072), a bill that would delay the EPA's climate regulations for stationary sources for two years. While halting the agency's efforts to regulate stationary sources, the bill would allow for other actions to still move forward, including vehicle emissions standards. Rockefeller currently has six Democrats joining him in support of the bill. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.V.) has introduced a companion bill (H.R. 4753) in the House of Representatives. Another potential option could be through the appropriations process; however, it is unclear if Congress will even get as far as subcommittee markups this year.

It is also unclear if the Senate will take up a comprehensive energy package this summer, which could include language to mitigate GHG emissions. Senators on both sides of the aisle are jockeying for what the legislation will ultimately look like if it were to reach the Senate floor. Several related bills, including the American Clean Energy Leadership Act which passed the Senate Energy

and Natural Resources Committee last year; the American Power Act, a climate change bill introduced by Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) and Sen. Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.); the Carbon Limits and Energy for America's Renewal (CLEAR) Act (S.2877); and the Practical Energy and Climate Plan Act of 2010 (S. 3464), have all been mentioned as potential vehicles to see action this year.

### Producers scoring 95 percent or more on Grade A Surveys and Federal Check Ratings

#### **MMPA Robert LaLone**

*May 2010*

William Stein\*

Spring Lake Farms LLC

Kevin Bollinger

Bebow Dairy Inc #2

Kenneth Vredenburg

OK Farms LLC

Tjerk Okkema

Doeke & Melissa Prins

#### **MMPA Allendale South**

*June 2010*

John & Philip Kuyers\*

Haveman Farms LLC\*

Glenn Hochstetler

Ivan Mast

Jacob Mast

Craig & Linda Jo Newland

James Jackson

Andrew Johnson

Webers Meadow LLC

James Brower

Al Ott Farm LLC

James Huggett

Ladine Farms

Wayne DeKleine

Pyle Dairy Farm Inc

Nienhuis Dairy Farm LLC

#### **MMPA Michigan Dairy South**

*June 2010*

Dwight Mansfield\*

Riske Farms

Williams Family Farm LLC

Kevin Cavanaugh

Hillside Dairy Farms

Stanley & Patricia Lambarth

Brian Sweetland

Long Haven Farms Inc.

Perry Cisco & Arturo Delgado

*\* producers scoring 100 percent*