

# PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** September 1, 2021  
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Montpelier, VT

## **Task Force to Revitalize the Vermont Dairy Industry Monday, September 13, 2021 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Room 10 State House Broadcast via YouTube**

The Task Force to Revitalize the Vermont Dairy Industry (Task Force) will meet at the State House on Monday, September 13, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Members of the public may attend the meeting at the State House or view it via YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQXkUCDAVICKzSdNeipFDkA/featured>

Section 31 of Act 129 of 2020 required the Department of Financial Regulation (DFR) to submit to the Vermont General Assembly an evaluation of the long-term sustainability of dairy farming in Vermont under current regulatory and market conditions. As part of the evaluation, DFR was required to submit recommendations for revising regulated dairy pricing and other market regulation in the State to improve the future viability of Vermont dairy farming. In response to DFR's recommendations, Act 129 required the General Assembly to establish the Task Force to Revitalize the Vermont Dairy Industry in order to develop legislation to implement DFR's recommendations.

At its September 13 meeting, the Task Force will take testimony concerning the organic milk industry in Vermont. The agenda for the Task Force meeting is attached.

Interested parties and members of the public are invited to provide input to the Task Force by e-mailing [DairyTaskForce@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:DairyTaskForce@leg.state.vt.us).

Testimony submitted to the Task Force and other relevant documents can be found at the Task Force website: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/366>.



**STATE OF VERMONT**

**Task Force to Revitalize the Vermont Dairy Industry**

**AGENDA**

**Room 10**

**September 13, 2021**

*Last Updated 8/31/2021 12:35 p.m.*

*Meetings are livestreamed at*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQXkUCDAVICKzSdNeipFDkA/featured>.

**9:00 a.m. Secretary's Assessment of the Vermont Dairy Industry**

*Update on farmers shipping to Horizon Organic*

Anson Tebbetts, Secretary, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM)

Diane Bothfeld, Director of Administrative Services & Dairy Policy, AAFM

E.B. Flory, Dairy Section Chief, AAFM

**9:20 a.m. Organic Farmers**

Jennifer Lambert, Vice President, Orange County Farm Bureau (9:20 a.m.)—Invited

Abbie Corse, Owner, Corse Family Farm (9:40 a.m.)—Invited

Leon Corse, Owner, Corse Family Farm (9:40 a.m.)

Russ Putney, Taylor Valley Farm, Washington, VT (10:00 a.m.)—Invited

, Representative, Owner, Med/Large Organic Farm (10:20 a.m.)

**10:40 a.m. Break**

**10:50 a.m. Overview of Organic Farming in Vermont**

Nicole Dehne, NOFA Vermont—Invited

**11:10 a.m. Organic Dairy Processors**

John Cleary, procurement, Organic Valley (11:10 a.m.)—Invited

John Morrissey, Sales Manager, Organic Valley (11:30 a.m.)—Invited

Rolf Carlson, procurement, Stonyfield (11:50 a.m.)—Invited

Derrick Singer, Sales Manager, Stonyfield (12:10 p.m.)—Invited

**12:30 p.m. Organic Standards**

Ed Maltby, Director, Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance (12:30 p.m.)—Invited

Tom Berry, Policy Advisor on Agriculture, Conservation, Energy and Natural Resources,  
Office of Sen. Leahy (12:45 p.m.)