



WISCONSIN FEDERATION OF COOPERATIVES • 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 401 • Madison, WI 53703 • Phone (608) 258-4400

DATE: October 19, 1995

TO: Senator Rodney Moen and  
Representatives Michael Huebsch and  
DuWayne Johnsrud

FROM: John Manske, Director of Government  
Relations

RE: LRB 4069/1

CC: Ken Machtan, Sen. Rude's office

**Earlier in the year, I talked to each of your offices about sponsorship of a bill that offers to extend PECFA coverage to tanks owned by dairy cooperatives. I've worked through Senator Rude's office to obtain the attached LRB draft. Please let Ken Machtan know if you will co-sign a memo to be distributed to your colleagues seeking additional sponsorship of this proposal.**

As you recall, Tri State Milk Cooperative of West Salem has sites at Mindoro and Chaseburg that are in different stages of cleanup from tank leaks that have not been eligible for PECFA reimbursement. As you know, fuel oil that goes through these types of tanks "pays" the same oil inspection fees that other types of tanks' fuels are responsible for. Last session, the legislature extended PECFA coverage to farm tanks and heating oil tanks owned by public school and technical college districts. This proposal provides the requirement that owners cover 25% of eligible costs, which is what is currently required of the school district owners.

We have attempted to have the proposal drafted in such a way that it does not harm the already strained PECFA account. The limit of new eligibility to heating oil tanks of up to 15,000 gallons owned by dairy cooperatives keeps the overall price tag on this bill modest. WFC knows of at least one other cooperative that has an interest in the legislation. In all likelihood, a small number of farmer owned dairy businesses will not severely dent the \$85 million per year program.

**Thanks for letting Ken Machtan know ASAP if you'd be willing to add your name to the memo, and to sponsor this legislation.**