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Hello Everyone,

It is with great excitement that we have some big news to share.

Just 8 months short of our 20th Anniversary, we have decided to merge our companies, Tomales Bay Foods and Cowgirl Creamery with Emmi. In making this significant business decision, we ultimately had to listen to our hearts. Continuing support for the excellent organic dairies, the artisan cheesemakers that we have worked with over the years, growth opportunities for our team, and the legacy and growth of our companies were of the utmost importance to us. We felt with great confidence that we have found a like-minded, value-aligned partner in Emmi, and indeed one who will be instrumental in securing the future of the business.

We are looking forward to the expertise and resources that this merger brings. Sue and I will continue to have the same involvement with the companies, co-managing directors; serving as President and Vice President. We will of course continue to operate with the same commitment to organic and sustainable agriculture, which has been our passion all along. This means that we will stay put, and continue to operate out of Marin and Sonoma Counties.

We are also thrilled to say that we will be able to build a new production facility in Petaluma very soon, and look forward to being able to bring back Cottage Cheese to our stable. We will also proudly to continue to make the cheese that we are currently producing. This merger also allows Cowgirl Creamery and Tomales Bay Foods access to expertise in traditional European cheesemaking techniques, as well as opportunities to collaborate on equipment, innovation, food safety, waste management and alternative energy. We expect our cheese lineup to grow creatively, and in a sustainable manner, always taking into account the farmers we work with, along with the animals and the farm land we rely on.

We have worked with and admired Emmi for some time. They maintain high standards of quality, show strong support for time-honored cheesemaking techniques, have a strong commitment to local dairies and have created an enlightened work environment. We have strong ties with a few of Emmi's brands that we have long admired, such as Cypress Grove and Redwood Hill Farm and Creamery, and as personal friends of both Jennifer Bice and Mary Keehn, we have seen how their partnerships with Emmi have truly benefitted their companies, as well as their communities.

With our gratitude for your continued support,

Sue and Peggy