

WCMA: Applauds support for ethanol producers and subzero supply chain

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MADISON, WI — The Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association today applauded Governor Tony Evers' plan to direct \$3.25 million in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act monies to Wisconsin ethanol producers. Ethanol production is critical to the manufacture of dry ice, now in heightened demand as the nation prepares for the super-chilled distribution of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine.

In recent weeks, WCMA has called on federal and state officials to ramp up dry ice production and preserve the national dairy industry's access to an essential amount – 350,000 pounds per week – for dairy cultures. Three companies, all with manufacturing facilities in Wisconsin, make the majority of the world's supply of dairy cultures, which are vital to dairy manufacturing and must be held at subzero temperatures prior to use.

WCMA Executive Director John Umhoefer released this statement following Evers' announcement:

“By supporting ethanol producers, Governor Evers is also helping to ensure availability of dry ice for the subzero food supply chain, which includes essential ingredients for dairy manufacturing. We thank him for taking action that will support ongoing production of cheese, yogurt, and other cultured dairy products for consumers in America and around the world.”

For more information on the dairy industry's essential dry ice needs, please see this [fact sheet](#).