#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

# If you purchased any Turkey product directly from a Turkey producer for use or delivery in the United States from January 1, 2010, through January 1, 2017, you may be eligible to receive benefits from class action settlements.

A federal court authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- A new Settlement Agreement ("Settlement" or "Cargill Settlement") has been reached in a class action antitrust lawsuit filed on behalf of Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs with Cargill, Incorporated and Cargill Meat Solutions Corporation ("Cargill" or "Settling Defendant"). The Settlement requires Cargill to pay \$32,500,000. In addition to this monetary payment, Cargill has agreed to respond to specific requests made by the Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs in their continued prosecution of the litigation.
- If approved by the Court, the Cargill Settlement will resolve the claims in the lawsuit about whether Cargill combined and conspired in restraint of trade, the purpose and effect of which was to suppress competition and to allow Cargill and other Turkey producers to charge supra-competitive prices for Turkey products during the Settlement Class Period, in violation of federal law. If approved, the Settlement will avoid litigation costs and risks to Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs and Cargill and will release Cargill from liability to members of the Settlement Class. The Court has not decided whether Cargill did anything wrong, and Cargill denies any wrongdoing.
- This new Settlement only applies to Cargill and does not dismiss claims against other Defendants in the case entitled In re Turkey Antitrust Litigation, No. 1:19-cv-08318, (N.D. III.). You may have seen a previous notice about a \$4,625,000 settlement in this lawsuit between Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs and Tyson Foods, Inc., Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc., Tyson Prepared Foods, Inc., and the Hillshire Brands Company ("Tyson"). The Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs' lawsuit is continuing against the Defendants who have not settled.
- This notice informs Settlement Class members how to make a claim to receive money from both the Cargill Settlement and the prior settlement with Tyson (collectively, the "Settlements"). Please follow the claims instructions in this notice and the attached Claim Form to receive money from the Settlements. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or do not act. Please read this notice carefully.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT			
FILE A CLAIM TO RECEIVE MONEY FROM THE SETTLEMENTS	In order to receive money from the Settlements you must submit a Claim Form by April 21, 2025. If you are confirmed to be a Settlement Class member and file a valid Claim Form, you will be eligible to receive payment from the Settlements. Instructions for filing a claim are available in Question 12 of this notice, on the Claim Form, and at the Settlement Website <a href="https://www.TurkeyLitigation.com">www.TurkeyLitigation.com</a> .		
ASK TO BE EXCLUDED	This is the only option that allows you ever to be part of any <i>other</i> lawsuit against Cargill about the Released Claims (as defined in the Settlement Agreement). Requests for Exclusion must be postmarked or received by April 21, 2025.		
Овјест	Write to the Court about why you do not like the Settlement. Objections must be postmarked or received by April 21, 2025.		
ATTEND THE FAIRNESS HEARING	Ask to speak in Court about the fairness of the Settlement.		
DO NOTHING	If you do not file a claim, you will receive no payment from the Settlements.		

- Your options are explained in this notice. To file a claim or ask to be excluded, you must act before April 21, 2025.
- Questions? Read on and visit www.TurkeyLitigation.com or call toll-free 1-877-777-9637.

# **What This Notice Contains**

What T	his Notice Co	ntains	2
	BASIC INFOR	MATION	3
	1.	Why did I receive a notice?	3
	2.	What is this lawsuit about?	3
	3.	What is a class action, and who is involved?	3
	4.	Why is there a Settlement?	
	5.	What if I received previous communications regarding this lawsuit?	4
	WHO IS IN TH	IE CLASS?	4
	6.	Am I part of the Class?	4
	7.	Are there exceptions to being included?	4
	8.	I'm still not sure if I'm included.	4
	THE BENEFIT	S OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH CARGILL	4
	9.	What does the Settlement with Cargill provide?	4
	10.	What are the Settlement benefits being used for?	5
	11.	How much will my payment from the Settlements be?	5
	How You Gi	ET A PAYMENT FROM THE SETTLEMENTS	5
	12.	How can I file a Claim Form to get a payment from the Settlements?	5
	13.	When will I get a payment from the Settlements?	6
	14.	What am I giving up by staying in the Settlement?	6
	EXCLUDING '	YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT	6
	15.	How do I exclude myself from the Settlement with Cargill?	6
	16.	If I don't exclude myself, can I sue Cargill for the same thing later?	6
	17.	If I exclude myself, can I still get a payment from the Settlement in the future?	7
	18.	If I excluded myself previously, do I need to exclude myself again?	7
	19.	Can I still exclude myself from the previous settlement?	7
	OBJECTING T	O THE SETTLEMENT	7
	20.	How do I tell the Court that I don't like the Settlement?	7
	21.	Can I object to the previous settlement?	7
	22.	What is the difference between excluding myself and objecting?	7
	THE LAWYER	RS REPRESENTING YOU	
	23.	Do I have a lawyer in this case?	8
	24.	Should I hire my own lawyer?	8
	25.	How will the lawyers be paid?	8
	THE COURT'S	S FAIRNESS HEARING	8
	26.	When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?	8
	27.	Do I have to come to the hearing?	8
	28.	May I speak at the hearing?	8
	GETTING MO	RE INFORMATION	9
	29.	How do I get more information about the Settlement?	9

#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I receive a notice?

Defendants, including Cargill, produce Turkey products. Defendants' records show that you may have purchased Turkey products directly from one or more of the Defendants for use and delivery in the United States between January 1, 2010, and January 1, 2017 (the "Settlement Class Period"). The list of Defendants is in Question 2 below.

The Court authorized this notice because you have a right to know about the Settlement of certain claims against Cargill in this class action lawsuit, and your options, before the Court decides whether to approve the Settlement between Cargill and Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs. If the Court approves it, and after any objections and appeals are resolved, you will be bound by the judgment and Settlement terms. This notice also explains the lawsuit, the Settlement, and your legal rights including how to submit a claim to receive a payment.

#### 2. What is this lawsuit about?

This class action lawsuit is called *In re Turkey Antitrust Litigation*, No. 1:19-cv-08318 and is pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. U.S. District Court Judge Sunil R. Harjani is in charge of this class action.

Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs allege that Defendants and their alleged co-conspirators conspired and combined to fix, raise, maintain, and stabilize the price of Turkey products, beginning at least as early as January 1, 2010, and continuing at least until January 1, 2017, with the intent and expected result of increasing prices of Turkey products in the United States, in violation of federal antitrust laws. For purposes of the Settlement, the term "Turkey" means turkey meat, which may be sold in a variety of forms, including fresh or frozen, ground or parts, and raw or cooked. "Turkey" includes, but is not limited to: breasts, wings, drums, legs, thighs, tenderloins, necks, tails, gizzards, feet, trim, tenders, mechanically separated turkey ("MST"), ground turkey, and further processed and value-added turkey products. "Turkey" also includes, but is not limited to, products containing turkey such as lunch meat, deli meat, sausage, franks, bacon, and corn dogs.

The Defendants named in Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs' Amended Class Action Complaint are producers of Turkey products in the United States, as well as Agri Stats, Inc. For the purpose of the Settlement, "Defendants" refers to Butterball, LLC; Cargill; Cooper Farms, Inc.; Farbest Foods, Inc.; Foster Farms LLC; Foster Poultry Farms; Hormel Foods Corporation; House of Raeford Farms, Inc.; Perdue Farms, Inc.; Perdue Foods LLC; Prestage Farms, Inc., Prestage Foods, Inc., Prestage Farms of South Carolina, LLC; Tyson; and Agri Stats, Inc. Defendants' "co-conspirators" include Dakota Provisions, LLC, Kraft Heinz, Kraft Foods Group Brands LLC, Michigan Turkey Producers LLC, Norbest LLC, and West Liberty Foods LLC.

Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs have reached this Settlement with Cargill, and a previous settlement with Tyson, but the Direct Purchasers Plaintiffs' case is proceeding against other Defendants. Those other Defendants may be subject to separate settlements, judgments, or class certification orders. If applicable, you will receive a separate notice regarding the progress of the litigation and any resolution of claims against other Defendants.

Cargill has denied all allegations of wrongdoing in this lawsuit and would continue to assert numerous defenses to Direct Purchasers Plaintiffs' claims if the case against it were to proceed.

#### 3. What is a class action, and who is involved?

In a class action lawsuit, one or more people or businesses, called class representatives, sue on behalf of themselves and others who have similar claims, all of whom together are a "class." Individual class members do not have to file a lawsuit to participate in the class action settlement or be bound by the judgment in the class action. One court resolves the issues for everyone in the class, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

#### 4. Why is there a Settlement?

The Court did not decide in favor of either Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs or Cargill. Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs believe they may have won at trial and possibly obtained a greater recovery. Cargill believes the Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs would not have succeeded at class certification or won at a trial. But litigation involves risks to both sides, and therefore Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs and Cargill have agreed to the Settlement. The Settlement requires Cargill to pay money, as well as

respond to specific requests made by the Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs in their continued prosecution of the litigation. Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs and their attorneys believe the Settlement is in the best interests of all Settlement Class members.

# 5. What if I received previous communications regarding this lawsuit?

You may have received a notice, authorized by the Court, about the Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs' previous settlement with Tyson. That settlement was approved by the Court on February 3, 2022.

You may have received other communications about this lawsuit, including solicitations by other attorneys seeking to represent you as a plaintiff in an individual (or "direct action") lawsuit against Defendants. These communications were not approved by the Court and did not come from Court-appointed Co-Lead Counsel.

If you are a Direct Purchaser Settlement Class member and you have not opted out of the Settlements, you must submit a Claim Form by April 21, 2025, to receive money from the Settlements.

# WHO IS IN THE CLASS?

# 6. Am I part of the Class?

The Court decided that, for settlement purposes, members of the Settlement Class are defined as:

All persons and entities who directly purchased Turkey from any Defendant or any alleged co-conspirator in the United States at any time from January 1, 2010, through January 1, 2017.

If you satisfy these criteria, and you do not file a timely and valid exclusion, then you are a member of the Settlement Class, subject to the exceptions listed in Question 7 below.

While this Settlement is only with Cargill, the Settlement Class includes persons who purchased Turkey products (as defined in the Settlement Agreement) from *any* of the Defendants or their co-conspirators.

# 7. Are there exceptions to being included?

Yes. Specifically excluded from the Settlement Class are the Defendants and their co-conspirators; the officers, directors, or employees of any Defendant or co-conspirator; any entity in which any Defendant or co-conspirator has a controlling interest; and any affiliate, legal representative, heir, or assign of any Defendant or co-conspirator. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are any federal, state, or local governmental entities, any judicial officer presiding over this action and the members of his/her immediate family and judicial staff, any juror assigned to this action, and anyone who timely and validly excludes themselves from the Settlement Class.

If you are in one of these categories, you are not a member of the Settlement Class and not eligible to participate in the Settlement.

#### 8. I'm still not sure if I'm included.

If you are still not sure if you are included, please review the detailed information contained in the Settlement Agreement, available for download at <a href="https://www.TurkeyLitigation.com">www.TurkeyLitigation.com</a>. You may also call the Settlement Administrator at 1-877-777-9637 or call or write to Co-Lead Counsel at the phone numbers or addresses listed in Question 20 below.

#### THE BENEFITS OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH CARGILL

#### 9. What does the Settlement with Cargill provide?

If the Settlement is approved, Cargill will pay \$32,500,000 into a Settlement fund to resolve all Released Claims that Settlement Class members ever had, now have, or may ever have against the Cargill Released Parties (all as defined in the Settlement Agreement). This amount may be reduced if the total sales by Cargill to Settlement Class members who timely and validly request exclusion from the Settlement exceeds a certain threshold as set forth in the Settlement Agreement. In addition to this monetary benefit, Cargill has also agreed to respond to specific requests made by the Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs in their continued prosecution of the litigation.

# 10. What are the Settlement benefits being used for?

A portion of the Settlement Fund proceeds are being used for the administration of the notice of the Settlement to potential members of the Settlement Class by the Settlement Administrator. Except as provided below regarding a motion related to attorneys' fees and expenses, the remainder of the Settlement Fund proceeds will remain available for any future notice, distribution to eligible members of the Settlement Class, or attorneys' fees, litigation expenses, and incentive awards to Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs and their counsel.

In an upcoming motion, Class Counsel will request up to 33 and 1/3% of the Settlement Fund in fees, current and ongoing litigation expenses for up to \$4,500,000, service awards of up to \$25,000 per Direct Purchaser Plaintiff, and up to \$250,000 to pay the costs for notice, approval, and administration of the claims process. A copy of this motion will be made available on the Settlement Website at least 14 days before the deadline to file an exclusion request.

The remainder of the Settlement Fund proceeds will be distributed to Settlement Class members who submit a timely and valid Claim Form and who have not excluded themselves from the Settlement on a *pro rata* basis pursuant to their verified Turkey purchases during the Settlement Class Period.

# 11. How much will my payment from the Settlements be?

To be eligible to receive a payment from the Cargill Settlement and the prior settlement with Tyson (collectively, "Settlement Proceeds"), you must complete and submit a timely Claim Form by April 21, 2025. The instructions for submitting a claim are set forth in the attached Claim Form and Question 12 below.

The amount of the Settlement Proceeds received by a qualified claimant will be based on a number of factors, including the number of Settlement Class members who have filed valid claims and the amount of approved Turkey purchases by each participating Settlement Class member during the Settlement Class Period.

In accordance with the Settlements, the combined Settlement Proceeds, net of Court-approved attorneys' fees, litigation expenses, and any class representative service awards and settlement administration and notice expenses, will be distributed to Settlement Class members who have submitted valid Claim Forms on a *pro rata* basis based on the amount of approved Turkey purchases by each participating Settlement Class member.

The distribution plan, to be approved by the Court at a later date, will determine the *pro rata* amount, if any, that each Settlement Class member will receive. The anticipated distribution plan for the Settlement Proceeds is to make a *pro rata* distribution to each qualifying Settlement Class member based on the dollar value of approved purchases of Turkey per Settlement Class member during the Settlement Class Period.

# HOW YOU GET A PAYMENT FROM THE SETTLEMENTS

#### 12. How can I file a Claim Form to get a payment from the Settlements?

To be eligible to receive a payment from any of the Settlements, you must complete and submit a timely Claim Form by April 21, 2025. Submit your Claim Form online at <a href="www.TurkeyLitigation.com">www.TurkeyLitigation.com</a> by April 21, 2025. Or fill out the Claim Form and mail it to the address below, postmarked no later than April 21, 2025. If you do not submit a valid Claim Form by the deadline, you will not receive a payment from any of the Settlements, but you will be bound by the Court's judgment in these actions.

Your Claim Form is attached and is pre-populated to reflect the amount of your Turkey purchases from each Defendant, based on a review of Defendants' records. You may use your personal Access Code listed on your Claim Form to log in at <a href="https://www.TurkeyLitigation.com">www.TurkeyLitigation.com</a>, where you can submit a claim and review your purchase information electronically. You can accept the purchase amounts that are pre-populated or, if you disagree with or want to supplement those amounts, you can provide additional purchase information by completing the Purchase Audit Request form posted on the Settlement Website and providing supporting documentation. All revised Turkey purchaser amounts will be subject to a review process by the Settlement Administrator, Co-Lead Counsel, and ultimately the Court.

You can also request that a Claim Form be sent to you by visiting the Settlement Website or by sending a written request to the Settlement Administrator by mail: Turkey Antitrust Litigation, c/o A.B. Data, Ltd., P.O. Box 173015, Milwaukee, WI 53217; or by email: info@turkeylitigation.com.

If you received multiple Claim Forms, you must submit each one or take other steps to ensure that all of the purchases reflected in the Claim Forms are accounted for in your submission.

If you have questions regarding your Claim Form or participating in the Settlements, contact Co-Lead Counsel or the Settlement Administrator using the contact information set forth in Question 20 below.

# 13. When will I get a payment from the Settlements?

Payments from the Settlements will be distributed once all of the claims are processed, any claim disputes are resolved, the Court approves the distribution plan, and any related issues are resolved. It is uncertain when this process will be completed. Settlement updates will be provided on the Settlement Website at <a href="www.TurkeyLitigation.com">www.TurkeyLitigation.com</a> or may be obtained by contacting the Settlement Administrator by phone toll-free at 1-877-777-9637. Please be patient.

# 14. What am I giving up by staying in the Settlement?

Unless you exclude yourself, you will stay in the Settlement Class in this Settlement, which means that you can't sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against the Cargill Released Parties that pertains to the Released Claims (as defined in the Settlement Agreement). Importantly, the Released Claims cover acts or omissions within the scope of the release through January 30, 2025, while claims made under the Settlement are for purchases between January 1, 2010, and January 1, 2017. The Released Claims are detailed in the Settlement Agreement, available at <a href="https://www.TurkeyLitigation.com">www.TurkeyLitigation.com</a>. Additionally, paragraph 12 of the Settlement Agreement removes Cargill's sales of turkey from any damages award resulting from any verdict and Final Judgment DPPs obtain against any other Defendant who is a signatory to a judgment-sharing agreement.

If you stay in the Settlement Class in this Settlement, you are releasing your claims against Cargill.

#### EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

# 15. How do I exclude myself from the Settlement with Cargill?

If you do not want the benefits offered by the Settlement and to be legally bound by the terms of the Settlement, or if you wish to pursue your own separate lawsuit against Cargill, you must exclude yourself by submitting a written request to the Settlement Administrator stating your intent to exclude yourself from the Settlement Class (an "Exclusion Request"). If you submit a timely and valid Exclusion Request, then you will not be eligible to receive any payment from the Settlement.

Your Exclusion Request must include the following: (a) your name, including the name of your business which purchased Turkey products, and address; (b) a statement that you want to be excluded from the Settlement Class in the Settlement with Cargill in *In re Turkey Antitrust Litigation*; (c) if your exclusion involves an assignment of claims, then you must identify the assignor, the assignee, and the total value of direct Turkey purchases during the Class Period from each Defendant or co-conspirator that is subject to the assignment; and (d) your signature. If you intend to exclude subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, related or controlled entities, entities under common control, predecessors in interest, or any other related entity, such entities must be expressly identified by name and address in your request.

Additionally, if you intend to exclude claims that were assigned to you from another potential member of the Settlement Class, you must include the assignor's name; whether the assignor fully or partially assigned their Turkey claims; the annual value of Turkey purchases assigned, identified by Defendant or Co-Conspirator from whom the purchases were made; and a copy of the executed assignment agreement or a statement outlining the assignment signed by both the assignor and assignee. You must mail or email your Exclusion Request, postmarked or received by April 21, 2025, to: *Turkey Antitrust Litigation*, Attn: EXCLUSIONS, c/o A.B. Data, Ltd., P.O. Box 173001, Milwaukee, WI 53217; or info@TurkeyLitigation.com.

# 16. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue Cargill for the same thing later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up the right to sue Cargill for the same claims that this Settlement resolves. If you have a pending lawsuit against Cargill, speak to your lawyer in that lawsuit immediately to determine whether you must exclude yourself from this Settlement Class to continue your own lawsuit against Cargill.

By staying in this Settlement, you are releasing your claims in this case against Cargill.

#### 17. If I exclude myself, can I still get a payment from the Settlement in the future?

No. If you exclude yourself, you may not make a claim in the future for this Settlement with Cargill. You will not be eligible to receive money from the Settlement when money is distributed to members of the Settlement Class.

# 18. If I excluded myself previously, do I need to exclude myself again?

Yes. If you do not want to be part of this Settlement with Cargill, you need to exclude yourself again now even if you excluded yourself from the previous settlement with Tyson.

#### 19. Can I still exclude myself from the previous settlement?

No. The deadline to exclude yourself from the previous settlement with Tyson has passed.

#### OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT

#### 20. How do I tell the Court that I don't like the Settlement?

If you are a member of the Settlement Class and have not excluded yourself from this Settlement, you can object to the Settlement with Cargill if you don't like part or all of it. The Court will consider your views.

To object, you must send a letter or other written statement saying that you object to the Settlement with Cargill in *In re Turkey Antitrust Litigation* and the reasons why you object to this Settlement. Be sure to include your full name, the name of your business which purchased Turkey, current mailing address, and email address. Your objection must be signed. You may include or attach any documents that you would like the Court to consider. Do not send your written objection to the Court or judge. Instead, mail your objection to the Settlement Administrator, Interim Co-Lead Counsel, and Counsel for Cargill at the addresses listed below. Your objection must be postmarked no later than April 21, 2025.

#### **Settlement Administrator:**

Turkey Antitrust Litigation ATTN: OBJECTIONS c/o A.B. Data, Ltd. P.O. Box 173001 Milwaukee, WI 53217

# **Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs'**Co-Lead Counsel:

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# **Counsel for Cargill:**

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#### 21. Can I object to the previous settlement?

No. The deadline to object to the previous settlement with Tyson has passed.

#### 22. What is the difference between excluding myself and objecting?

Objecting is telling the Court that you do not like something about the Settlement. You can object only if you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class in a settlement. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no standing to object because the Settlement no longer affects you.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

# 23. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

Yes. The Court appointed the law firms Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP and Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP to represent members of the Settlement Class as Co-Lead Counsel. You will not be charged for these lawyers. Their contact information is provided above in Question 20. If you want to be represented by another lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

# 24. Should I hire my own lawyer?

If you wish to remain a member of the Settlement Class, you do not need to hire your own lawyer because Co-Lead Counsel is working on your behalf.

If you wish to pursue your own case separate from this one, or if you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, these lawyers will no longer represent you. You will need to hire your own lawyer if you wish to pursue your own lawsuit against Cargill.

#### 25. How will the lawyers be paid?

In an upcoming motion, Class Counsel will also request up to 33 and 1/3% of amounts paid by Cargill and Tyson pursuant to the Settlements in fees, current and ongoing litigation expenses for up to \$4,500,000, service awards of up to \$25,000 per Direct Purchaser Plaintiff, and up to \$250,000 to pay the costs for notice, approval, and administration of the claims process. A copy of this motion will be made available on the Settlement Website at least 14 days before the deadline to file an Exclusion Request. Settlement Class members who have not excluded themselves from the Class may object to this request if they choose, and may do so pursuant to the instructions and deadline in Question 20. You will not have to pay any fees or costs out-of-pocket.

# THE COURT'S FAIRNESS HEARING

# 26. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to approve the Settlement (the "Fairness Hearing"). You may attend and you may ask to speak, but you don't have to. The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing on June 18, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Central. The hearing will be conducted by video conference. A telephone call-in number is also available: (855) 244-8681 and the access code is 2319 163 9975##. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement and the request for litigation expenses. We do not know how long these decisions will take.

The Court will hold the Fairness Hearing remotely via telephone or video conference and may change call-in details or move the Fairness Hearing to a later date without providing additional notice to members of the Settlement Class. Updates will be posted to the Settlement Website.

# 27. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Co-Lead Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have. However, you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary.

# 28. May I speak at the hearing?

Yes, you may ask to speak at the Fairness Hearing. To do so, you must send a letter saying that it is your "Notice of Intention to Appear in *In re Turkey Antitrust Litigation*." Be sure to include your name, the name of your business which purchased Turkey, current mailing address, telephone number, and signature. Your Notice of Intention to Appear must be postmarked no later than April 21, 2025, and it must be sent to the Clerk of the Court, Co-Lead Counsel, and Counsel for Cargill. The address for the Clerk of the Court is: Dirksen U.S. Courthouse, 219 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60604. The addresses

for Co-Lead Counsel and Counsel for Cargill are provided in Question 20. You cannot ask to speak at the hearing if you excluded yourself from the Settlement Class.

# **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

# 29. How do I get more information about the Settlement?

This notice summarizes the proposed Settlement with Cargill. More details are in the Settlement Agreement. You can find a copy of the Settlement Agreement, other important documents, and information about the current status of the litigation by visiting <a href="www.TurkeyLitigation.com">www.TurkeyLitigation.com</a>. You may contact the Settlement Administrator at <a href="info@TurkeyLitigation.com">info@TurkeyLitigation.com</a> or toll-free at 1-877-777-9637. You may also contact Co-Lead Counsel at the addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses provided in Question 20.

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT REGARDING THIS NOTICE.