

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The Transformation of U.S. Livestock Agriculture
Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB) EB
 Influential Scientific Information
 Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

Agency: Economic Research Service []
USDA

Agency Contact: Elise Golan, egolan@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: US livestock production has shifted, over decades, to much larger and more specialized farms, and the various stages of input provision, farm production, and processing are now much more tightly coordinated through formal contracts and shared ownership of assets. Important financial advantages drive these structural changes, which in turn are a major driver of industry productivity growth. But structural changes can also impose risks on society, as concentrated production also concentrates animal wastes in localized areas. This report relies on farm-level data to detail the nature, causes, and effects of these structural changes.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: Panel Review Individual Reviewers
 Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 07/23/08 End: 09/02/08 Completed: 10/14/08

Number of Reviewers: 3 or fewer 4 to 10 More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: Agency Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes No
If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:
How:
When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No
Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No

