

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Effects of Third-Party Audits and Plant Characteristics on Food Safety Technology Use in Meat and Poultry Plants

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB) EIB

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information
USDA [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: Standards imposed on meat and poultry suppliers by Jack-in-the-Box, Costco, and other major meat and poultry plant customers and the business failures of Hudson's Meat and several other large meat and poultry plants after well-publicized product recalls have given meat and poultry plants a strong incentive to make food safety investments. This report uses a technology index developed by Ollinger, Moore, and Chandran (2004) and standard statistical tools, mainly Tukey comparison tests, to examine food safety technology use in six meat and poultry industries--cattle, hog, and poultry slaughter and ready-to-eat (e.g. luncheon meats), not-ready-to-eat (e.g. meat cuts), and ground beef processing-only industries. Six types of technology indexes were used: hide-removal (dehiding), sanitation, operations, equipment, testing, and an overall measure. Indexes were based on a more comprehensive assortment of food safety technologies than that which was available for Ollinger, Moore, and Chandran (2004). The data are nationally representative and include information on 600 slaughter plants and 700 processing-only meat and poultry plants collected by RTI International for the Food Safety Inspection Service on the use of food safety technologies in 2004 and 2005.

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 [X] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 01/21/11 End: 04/04/11 Completed: 04/04/11

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

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [] Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

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

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [] Yes [X] No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No

