

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: An Analysis of the Limited Base Acre Provision of the 2008 Farm Act

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: The number of FSA farms and the portion with limited base acres has increased over the last decade, likely in response to two factors: (1) ad hoc disaster provisions for crops, which were paid on an individual FSA farm basis (meaning that the smaller the geographic unit, the more likely the farm would be to qualify for a disaster payment); and (2) the fractionation of farms among multiple owners as land is passed down through generations. By 2009, 2.2 million FSA farms were eligible to receive DCP or ACRE payments, of which nearly 17 percent had 10 or fewer base acres. How many farms are affected by the “base-10” policy change is the issue addressed in this report.

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: 03/15/11 End: 05/10/11 Completed: 05/10/11

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 [X] No

