

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Using Agricultural Policy to Promote Rural Development: Contrasting the Approach of the European Union and the United States  
 Influential Scientific Information

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

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

Subject of Review: EU agricultural policy changes that shift support from commodity-based programs toward rural development programs raise the question how agricultural policy promotes rural development in both the EU and the United States. The study examines each region's policy objectives in the area of rural development and how they use a different policy mix to achieve these objectives. Differences in approach and parallels in motivation are highlighted. Differences in farm distribution, population density, and historical settlement patterns are explored as a possible explanation for the differences in approaches to rural policy. Each country's programs are evaluated in terms of their ability to promote rural development objectives. A series of research questions is identified to aid in determining whether the EU's experience in emphasizing its Pillar II programs can inform the U.S. agricultural policy debate.

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: 08/25/06 End: 10/12/06 Completed: 12/14/07

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

