

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The Economic Forces Driving Food Safety in Meat and Poultry
 Influential Scientific Information

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

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Subject of Review: In this report, the researchers empirically examine the relative contributions that process regulation and industry private actions make to plant-level food safety performance, as measured by *Salmonella* tests conducted by the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS). They use a Tobit regression to evaluate the impact of regulatory and plant actions on the share of samples testing positive for *Salmonella*. The authors use the marginal effects parameters to estimate the percent changes in *Salmonella* levels due to 20 percent changes in the independent variables. Then, they compute the relative contributions of process regulations and private actions to overall reduction in *Salmonella* levels.

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: 10/16/06 End: 11/08/07 Completed: 11/08/07

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

