Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The Role of Agriculture in Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Type of Report   EIB
(ERR, EIB, EB)

                                                        [X]   Influential Scientific Information

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

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

Subject of Review: Agriculture has a potentially prominent role to play in U.S. efforts to reduce
                       greenhouse gas emissions. Farms and ranches can undertake a variety of activities
                       that reduce, replace or avoid emissions of the three main greenhouse gases. These
                       activities may include shifting to conservation tillage, reducing the amount of
                       nitrogen fertilizer, changing livestock and manure management practices, planting
                       more trees, and producing biofuels. A variety of policy approaches are available to
                       encourage rural landowners to undertake these climate-friendly activities. The
                       extent to which farmers will adopt these new activities depends on the costs of these
                       actions and the incentives created by climate policy. This report discusses these
                       issues in general terms, without estimating farmer participation rates.

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: 10/14/09   End: 11/03/09   Completed: 11/19/09

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

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