

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: U.S. Produce Growers' Thoughts on Changing Food Safety Requirements: A Case Study Analysis

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB, TB, SOR,) EIB

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

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Subject of Review: The 2011 Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) mandated a rule on new standards for produce safety entitled "Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption"—often called the "Produce Rule" (PR)—as the first on-farm FDA regulation for U.S. produce growers. Regulators and organizations that advise growers need to understand the challenges facing growers to ensure successful implementation of the Produce Rule. The Economic Research Service (ERS) interviewed about 50 produce growers, food safety supervisors, officials from State departments of agriculture, agricultural extension personnel, and trade organization representatives between 2015 and 2017 to explore the complex reasons why produce growers chose to use certain food safety practices. All growers embrace the importance of growing safe food to protect consumers and their businesses. However, interviews reveal that food safety practices followed by growers vary widely.

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Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 7/30/2018 Completed: 12/03/18 Withdrawn: XX/XX/18

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

