Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The Distribution of Farm Household Income and Wealth

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

Agency: Economic Research Service USDA

Agency Contact: Constance Newman, cnewman@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: The economic well-being of farm households is typically measured based on total farm household income. However, this economic indicator is highly variable due to temporary disturbances in farm income. As a result, it is not unusual for farm households to be classified as income poor when they have high wealth. This report examines the dispersion in economic well-being based on a comprehensive indicator of economic well-being that combines income and annuitized wealth (“full income”). The contributions of the various components of full income towards the disparity in its distribution are examined for all farm households and for farm households operating farms with moderate farm sales and beyond. The potential effects of farm operator’s age and education on the inequality in the distribution of full income are investigated as well.

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


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