Preliminary Title: Trends in FDA refusals of imported food products, 2002–2013

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

Agency: Economic Research Service USDA

Agency Contact: Ephraim Leibtag, eleibtag@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: This report analyzes U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) data on food import shipments that were refused entry into U.S. markets from 2002 to 2013, and assesses trends in import refusals—by industry, country, and type of violation—over that period. The report also compares trends and patterns seen over this period with results of an earlier ERS study (Buzby, Unnevehr, and Roberts, 2008) that analyzed equivalent data over 1998 to 2004. Because FDA inspectors target certain importers or product categories that are believed to pose greater risks, rather than randomly sampling shipments, these data are not representative of all food shipments offered for import into the United States. However, they do constitute the complete record of all food shipments refused by FDA over 2002–2013.

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: 06/30/15 End: 09/30/15 Completed: 09/30/15

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