

Appendix



Date: August, 2001

To FSIS Contact:

The U.S. Congress has requested a report assessing the costs incurred by the meat and poultry industry of implementing and administering the HACCP/Pathogen Reduction rule (the rule), which was promulgated in 1996. Your participation is essential for providing accurate information.

The Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) of Washington State University will gather the information for analysis by the Economic Research Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. SESRC has been advised to contact you because you may be the one best able to respond to questions about the costs of the rule. So, please take a few minutes to complete the attached questionnaire.

The information you provide will not be used as individual data about your operation, but rather will be combined to show overall costs and trends regarding the implementation of HACCP in your plant. Thus, the results will aid in the understanding of the true costs and effectiveness of the inspection system in plants like yours. It could also help influence or affect the way future changes are made in the inspection program requirements.

Again, your cooperation is appreciated. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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