Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title:	Understanding Household Energy Insecurity and the Effects of Social Assistance Programs

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

[X]   Influential Scientific Information

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

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Subject of Review: Household energy insecurity is an important topic that has received little attention within the United States. Since low-income households spend approximately equal shares of income on food and energy costs (10-15 percent), it is just as important to understand energy insecurity as it is food insecurity. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is the single largest energy assistance program available to poor households in the United States and understanding of its impact on household energy insecurity is limited. Little empirical evidence has been generated to determine whether LIHEAP differentially or effectively helps low-income households. This report estimates the impact of LIHEAP on household energy security.

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Timing of Review (Est.):   Start: 03/18/14   End: XX/XX/XX   Withdrawn: 4/02/14

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

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