Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Children's Food Security and USDA School Meal Programs

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

[X] Influential Scientific Information

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

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Subject of Review: Access to healthy meals through school meal programs is an important component of the food assistance safety net, improving food security both by augmenting overall household resources and by providing children with a regular source of nutritious meals. Studies that account for the greater likelihood of participation in school meal programs among children from food insecure households find that school meal programs reduce food insecurity among children. School meals contribute a higher share of calories and most food groups to diets of children from food insecure households than those from food secure households. In this report, we present new statistics on food insecurity among school-aged children. We then examine the effects of school meal programs on children's food security and diets based on recent research results.

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Timing of Review (Est.):   Start: 10/13/16   Complete: 4/6/17   Withdrawn: X/X/X

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