

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Food Safety Requirements for Produce Growers: Retailer Demands and the Food Safety Modernization Act

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

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

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Subject of Review: Foodborne illness linked to contaminated produce is a public health concern. The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), signed into law in 2011, is the most recent step in efforts to reduce the risk of microbial contamination that can cause human illness. While the law includes many provisions, the “Standards for Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption,” commonly known as the Produce Rule (PR), is the most important for farm-level produce operations. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released the PR in 2015, which went into effect in January 2017 with phased-in implementation beginning in January 2018 (U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 2015a). This report focuses on the role of retailers in the development and implementation of food safety programs across the supply chain.

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Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 3/13/2018 Completed: 9/10/18 Withdrawn: XX/XX/18

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