

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Economic considerations of reducing nutrient losses from agriculture in the Mississippi Atchafalaya River Basin

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

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

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Subject of Review: Every summer, a large hypoxic zone forms in the Gulf of Mexico. This zone, where dissolved oxygen is too low for many aquatic species to survive, is fueled by nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) runoff from the Mississippi/Atchafalaya River Basin (MARB), most of which comes from agriculture. This study uses the Regional Environment and Agriculture Programming (REAP) model and data from the USDA Conservation Effects Assessment Project to assess the most efficient way of reducing agricultural nutrient loads to the Gulf through the adoption of nutrient reducing management practices, adoption of off-field practices for intercepting nutrients, and changes in crop management.

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: 05/25/17 End: 10/24/17 Completed: 10/24/17

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