

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: A New Outlook for the U.S.-Mexico Sugar and Sweetener Market

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

SOR

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

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Subject of Review: This report provides an overview of the U.S.-Mexico sweetener market and explains how the agreements suspending the U.S. antidumping and countervailing duty investigations on sugar imports from Mexico are likely to reshape this market's outlook. It examines the circumstances leading up to the investigations, including how the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) liberalized bilateral trade in sugar and high fructose corn syrup (HFCS) but allowed each country to continue determining its own domestic sugar policies. Increased sugarcane area in Mexico and higher than average yields in both countries led to the abundant crops of 2013-14, which in turn placed downward pressure on prices in the integrated U.S.-Mexico market. By altering the supply of Mexican sugar in the U.S. and Mexican markets, the suspension agreements are likely to affect U.S. and Mexican demand for HFCS, while the development of an ethanol fuel industry in Mexico might temper the effects of the agreements

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: 11/04/15 End: 02/09/16 Completed: 02/09/16

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

