

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Consolidation in U.S. Dairy Farming

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: Dairy farm closures have attracted widespread news coverage recently. Small and midsized dairy farms have been facing significant financial challenges. The number of U.S. dairy farms has been declining for many years, even as total milk production has steadily increased, as production has shifted to much larger dairy operations. This report details the continuing structural and geographic transformation of U.S. dairy farming, identifies the financial and productive factors that have driven those structural and geographic shifts, and evaluates the prospects for further consolidation.

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Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 7/2/2019 Completed: 9/13/19 Withdrawn: XX/XX/19

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