

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Non-Tariff Barriers and U.S. Meat Exports to the European Union

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

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

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Subject of Review: The United States and the European Union (EU) are the two largest economies and the largest agricultural exporters in the world. Accordingly, a United States- European Union free trade agreement that reduces trade barriers has strong potential to alter trade flows, prices, and consumption and production patterns within both regions. For agriculture, non-tariff measures, particularly tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures pose special challenges in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations due to their complexity and prevalence across many sectors. To better understand these complexities, this study examines market access barriers in the form of TRQs and SPS measures for U.S. meat (beef, poultry, and pork) exports to the EU. We find that these barriers limit the amount of meat exports from the United States to the EU. Examining possible outcomes of TTIP indicates that increasing the TRQ could lead to more beef exports. It is unlikely that a change in TRQs would lead to higher exports of pork and poultry unless the industries change production practices.

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: 05/23/14 End: 08/13/14 Completed: 08/13/14

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

