**Peer Review Plan**

Preliminary Title: Concentration and Competition in U.S. Agribusiness

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<tr>
<th>Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB)</th>
<th>EIB</th>
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Agency: Economic Research Service [ ] USDA

Agency Contact: Kelly Maguire, kelly.b.maguire@usda.gov

**Highly Influential Scientific Assessment**

**Subject of Review:** Concentration, and its impact on competition in markets, has attracted growing public scrutiny. Critics argue that many industries have grown more concentrated, with fewer firms competing with one another and a consequent weakening of competition. The issues surrounding concentration extend to agribusiness, and particularly to three agribusiness sectors where concentration has increased over time: seeds, meatpacking, and grocery retailing. We seek to detail consolidation in each industry, and explain the driving forces behind increased concentration, the effects on competition, and public policies aimed at encouraging competition, with a focus on the implementation of merger policy.

**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.

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<th>Type of Review:</th>
<th>[ ] Panel Review</th>
<th>[X] Individual Reviewers</th>
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| Alternative Process (Briefly Explain): |

**Timing of Review (Est.):**

- **Start:** 7/15/2022
- **Completed:** ------

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<th>Number of Reviewers:</th>
<th>[ ] 3 or fewer</th>
<th>[X] 4 to 10</th>
<th>[ ] More than 10</th>
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**Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review:** Economists

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<th>Reviewers selected by:</th>
<th>[X] Agency</th>
<th>[ ] Designated Outside Organization</th>
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**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