

Dated: March 29, 2007.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2007-0012]

#### Risk-Based Inspection System

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings on risk-based inspection

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection (FSIS) will hold a series of public meetings on specific topics relating to risk-based inspection in processing. The first meeting will focus on the algorithm that the Agency intends to use to compute risk-based inspection levels for processing establishments. A second meeting will address the issue of attributing illness to food. Production volume will be discussed at the third meeting, and industry data will be the focus of the fourth meeting. The expert elicitation process will be discussed at the fifth meeting.

**DATES:** FSIS will hold the meetings on the following dates:

*Monday, April 2, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.* The first meeting will focus on the algorithm the Agency intends to use to compute risk-based inspection levels for processing establishments.

*Thursday, April 5, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.* This meeting will discuss the issue of attributing illness to food.

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.* Production volume will be discussed at the third meeting.

*Monday, April 30, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.* The topic of industry data is the focus of the fourth meeting. A technical meeting on the expert elicitation process is also planned as the fifth meeting. The date of this meeting will be announced at a later time. Any changes in meeting dates or times will be posted on the FSIS Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held in Room 244 at George Mason University, 3401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22201. Directions to the site, the agenda, and other meeting materials will be posted on the FSIS Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

All meetings will be accessible through conference call. Specific

information concerning connections and the telephone number will also be posted on the FSIS Web site. Members of the public should pre-register for the meetings (see Background). Online registration information is also located on the Web site.

FSIS welcomes comments on the topics to be discussed at the public meetings. An issue paper concerning the respective topics will be posted on the FSIS Web site, <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>, a week prior to each meeting, with the exception of the meeting on attribution. Comments may be submitted on the meeting topics by any of the following methods for 30 days from the date of completion of each public meeting:

- **Electronic mail:** An e-mail box has been established specifically for comments for RBI. Comments can be submitted to: [riskbasedinspection@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:riskbasedinspection@fsis.usda.gov).
- **Mail, including floppy disks or CD-ROMs:** Send to: Elyn Blumberg, USDA, FSIS, Aerospace Building, 3rd floor, room 405, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250.
- **Hand or courier-delivered items:** Deliver to: Elyn Blumberg at 901 D Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024. Have security guard call (202) 690-6520 in order to hand deliver items.
- **Facsimile:** Fax comments to: (202) 690-6519.

All submissions received must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2007-0012 and meeting topic. The comments also will be posted on the Agency's Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sally Fernandez for meeting information at (202) 690-6524, Fax (202) 690-6519, or e-mail [sally.fernandez@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:sally.fernandez@fsis.usda.gov). Keith Payne for technical information at (202) 690-6522 or e-mail at [keith.payne@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:keith.payne@fsis.usda.gov). Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should notify the Agency contacts no later than two weeks before the meeting, at the numbers above or by e-mail.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

FSIS is the public health regulatory agency in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) responsible for ensuring that the nation's commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe, wholesome, and correctly labeled and packaged.

To better address the food safety and public health challenges it faces, FSIS is working to make its inspection system more risk-based and to continue to implement science-based policies.

Although the Agency acknowledges that some types of meat and poultry products pose greater health risks than others, and some establishments control risks better than others, under the current system of processing inspection, a Consumer Safety Inspector visits every plant at least once every shift to perform a variety of verification procedures scheduled by the Performance Based Inspection System (PBIS.) PBIS schedules inspection procedures the same way in all processing plants, regardless of the particular food safety hazard associated with the products produced or processes performed at one plant versus another.

In July 2004, the Agency outlined the basic features of a predictive model that would permit FSIS to improve resource allocation by considering the inherent risks and risk control effectiveness of the meat and poultry establishments under Federal inspection. Since that time, FSIS has continued to develop and refine these ideas. In November 2005, FSIS addressed the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection (NAMCPI) on Agency progress toward a Risk-Based Inspection System (RBIS). In May 2006, the Agency again addressed NAMCPI—this time on ideas the Agency has on measuring risk control effectiveness for RBI.

Reductions in the number of illnesses attributed to the consumption of adulterated meat and poultry products can be achieved by placing greater inspection and verification emphasis on establishments whose processes, owing to the nature and volume of their production, require greater control of the risks. FSIS believes that it can improve public health by focusing its efforts on processing establishments that produce products presenting high inherent risk and that are less effective in controlling risks. At the same time, FSIS can focus less on processing establishments that produce products that present low inherent risk and that exercise effective risk control. In both cases, establishments will continue to be inspected on a per shift basis, although the intensity of inspection will vary, depending on risk factors.

In October 2006, FSIS held a public meeting to present ideas about how the Agency can develop these measures for federally-inspected meat and poultry processing establishments and to accept stakeholder input.

This series of technical meetings that the Agency is announcing will address various dimensions of RBI and protecting public health, and FSIS is seeking input from all stakeholders on these matters. Prior to each meeting, FSIS will post on its Web site an issue

paper on its current thinking concerning the respective topic or other relevant materials. At the meeting relating to attributing illness to food, the agency will invite experts to provide information and views on the definitions of attribution as well as state of the art methods in collecting attribution data. Each meeting will be moderated to ensure that all participants have ample opportunity to present their views. A transcript of the meetings will be taken and made available on the FSIS Web site, <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

All comments received in response to this notice will be considered part of the public record.

Members of the public should pre-register for the meeting. Online registration information is located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

#### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that minorities, women and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it online through the FSIS Web page located at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2007\\_Notices\\_Index/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2007_Notices_Index/). FSIS will also make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interests to constituents and stakeholders. The update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The update is available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Listserv and Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader and more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an e-mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news\\_and\\_events/email\\_subscription/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_and_events/email_subscription/). Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the

option to password protect their account.

**David P. Goldman,**

*Acting Administrator.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Economics and Statistics Administration

#### Bureau of Economic Analysis Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Economic Analysis, Economics and Statistics Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Public Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463 as amended by Pub. L. 94-409, Pub. L. 96-523, Pub. L. 97-375 and Pub. L. 105-153), we are announcing a meeting of the Bureau of Economic Analysis Advisory Committee. The meeting's agenda focuses on the various aspects involved with the measurement of health care in the national economic accounts.

**DATES:** Friday, May 4, 2007, the meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and adjourn at approximately 3:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will take place at the Bureau of Economic Analysis at 1441 L St., NW., Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dorothy Andrade, Communications Division Chief, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230; *telephone number:* (202) 606-9630.

*Public Participation:* This meeting is open to the public. Because of security procedures, anyone planning to attend the meeting must contact Dorothy Andrade of BEA at (202) 606-9630 in advance. The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for foreign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dorothy Andrade at (202) 606-9630.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee was established September 2, 1999. The Committee advises the Director of BEA on matters related to the development and improvement of BEA's national, regional, industry, and international economic accounts, especially in areas of new and rapidly growing economic activities arising from innovative and advancing technologies, and provides recommendations from the perspectives

of the economics profession, business, and government. This will be the Committee's fifteenth meeting.

Dated: March 26, 2007.

**J. Steven Landefeld,**

*Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, Hawai'i; Monument Management Plan

**AGENCIES:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Interior; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; Preparation of a management plan, and environmental assessment.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that NOAA, FWS, and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawai'i (DLNR) intend to prepare a Monument Management Plan (Monument Plan) and associated environmental assessment for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and surrounding marine areas. The Monument Plan will modify NOAA's existing Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Proposed National Marine Sanctuary Draft Management Plan, and incorporate FWS refuge comprehensive conservation planning (CCP) requirements, DLNR planning needs, and other elements to reflect the area's new status as a national monument.

**DATES:** Any written comments must be received by June 4, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Don Palawski, Monument Plan Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Box 50167, Honolulu, HI 96850-5000; or via e-mail to [PMNM\\_MMP\\_Comments@fws.gov](mailto:PMNM_MMP_Comments@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Don Palawski, Monument Plan Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Box 50167, Honolulu, HI 96850-5000; phone (808) 792-9560, or fax (808) 792-9585.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 15, 2006, President George W. Bush