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Agency: FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

Title: Changes in Fees for Meat, Poultry, and Egg Products Inspection Services--Fiscal Years

2005-2008

Subject Category: Meat and poultry inspection: Fiscal Years 2005-2008 fee changes

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Please note your REGULATIONS.GOV number.

Regulations.gov #: EREG - 1 Submitted Aug 10, 2005

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Comment: The proposed price increase from \$1500 to \$4000 and then to \$5600 by 2008 is a substantial increase for a small business such as ours that runs a relatively small numbers of samples. That is an increase of over 273%. If this increase is due to contracting out services maybe that contract should be reviewed. Normally organizations contract out to save money.

We also have to participate in another USDA program for the same type samples. This program is with the USDA/AMS and is only \$800. These services should be combined as they are for the same type samples and both with the USDA.

I am concerned that this could drive small labs out of the business and keep others from

becoming involved.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.