

Peer Review Plan

Title of Review: Estimation of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Prevalence in the United States [X] Influential Scientific Information

Agency: USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: APHIS undertook a scientific analysis to determine BSE prevalence in the United States. Estimating the prevalence of the disease can help guide science-based policy and regulatory decisions on BSE risk mitigation.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to confirm that the scientific information used in the analysis is accurate and complete, the mathematical models are appropriate and used correctly, and the conclusions are reasonable, given the information presented and the mathematical findings.

Type of Review: [] Panel Review [x] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain): _____

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 4/28/2006 End: 5/30/2006 Completed: _____

Number of Reviewers: [] 3 or fewer [X] 4 to 10 [] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: _____
To be determined at the time the charge to reviewers is developed with the selected contractor. In general, APHIS needs individuals with expertise, knowledge and understanding in the following:
(1) science and aspects of BSE, particularly related to animal health
(2) mathematical modeling and Bayesian theory
(3) estimation procedures for determining disease prevalence.

Reviewers selected by: [] Agency [x] Designated Outside Organization

Organization's Name: Private contractor to be selected. APHIS will provide recommendations for selecting reviewers.

Opportunities for Public Comment? [] Yes [x] No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How: The scientific document is being submitted for peer review and also being made *available* to the public. [This will be done with a published notice of availability of the document.](#) .

When: [Earliest possible publication of notice of availability would be May 2006](#)

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No

Other: _____



Location of Document Being Reviewed [The latest version of An Estimate of the Prevalence of BSE in the United States will be available by clicking **HERE** when the comment period for the proposed rule is open and the document is given to the peer reviewers.](#)

To Comment on This Plan [To comment on this plan or send an email message regarding it, click **HERE** or send an email to: \[APHIS_Peer_Review_Agenda@aphis.usda.gov\]\(mailto:APHIS_Peer_Review_Agenda@aphis.usda.gov\) On the subject line of the message, please write: Estimate of BSE Prevalence in the U.S.](#)

You may also send a letter in hard copy to the following address:
APHIS Peer Review Agenda
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Policy and Program Development, Unit 120
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