Peer Review Plan

Title of Review: Risk Based Verification   [   ]   **Influential Scientific Information**
Sampling for *E. coli*
O157:H7 in Ground Beef

Agency: FSIS   [x]   **Highly Influential Scientific Assessment**

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Subject of Review: Methods development

Purpose of Review: FSIS wishes to change the way verification sampling is conducted for E. coli O157:H7 in ground beef. Currently samples are taken randomly from all processors. FSIS wishes to focus resources on the riskiest processors. Risk based verification sampling weights samples towards those processors predicted to have the highest likelihood of illness per serving. For the purpose of verification sampling, risk is defined as the potential for the product to cause human illness due to *E. coli* O157:H7 (prevalence and concentration).

Type of Review: [   ]   Panel Review   [x]   Individual Reviewers

    [   ]   Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.):   Start: 11/01/06   End: Completed:

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

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review:
modeler/engineer, epidemiologist, food scientist

Reviewers selected by: [   ]   Agency   [x]   Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name: SAIC or RTI

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

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

How: Note: FSIS will have a public process to comment on the risk assessment either as part of rulemaking or as part of the Federal Register notice making it available. This occurs after a peer review of the risk assessment and is done in addition to the peer review process.

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments?   [   ]   Yes   [x]   No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel?   [ ]   Yes   [x]   No

Other: _____

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