

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: 7/20/2006

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

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: _____
This was determined at the time the charge to reviewers was developed with the selected contractor. In general, APHIS needed 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: RTI International, Research Triangle Park, NC. APHIS provided recommendations for selecting reviewers.

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes No

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

How: The scientific document was submitted for peer review and is also being made available to the public.

When: _____

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No

Other: _____

