

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Coming Home to Rural America: Why Some Return to Out of the Way Communities and Others Do Not, and What Difference It Makes

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB, SOR,) ERR

Influential Scientific Information

Agency: Economic Research Service [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
USDA

Agency Contact: Ephraim Leibtag ; eleibtag@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: Persistent population loss remains a prominent challenge for rural communities. Young people often leave their home communities after graduating from high school to gain life experiences in a different locale. However, stemming rural population loss and spurring economic development may depend less on retaining young adults and more on attracting them back later in life. Return migration plays a largely overlooked role in replenishing population, education levels, labor supply, and the social vitality of thousands of rural communities nationwide. This report identifies reasons for returning and not returning to rural communities in the U.S. based on from interviews with adults in their late 20's and 30's, and the demographic, economic, and social impacts of return migrants on home communities.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

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

[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 06/18/14 End: 07/25/14 Completed: 10/30/14

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

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

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

Organization's Name:

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

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

How:

When:

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

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



