

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Conservation Compliance: How Incentives are Changing in the Crop Insurance Era

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

ERR

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

Agency Contact: Cindy Nickerson, cnickerson@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: Conservation Compliance ties eligibility for most Federal farm program benefits to soil and wetland conservation. Farmers who participate must apply an approved soil conservation system on highly erodible cropland (Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELIC)) and refrain from draining wetlands (Wetland Conservation (WC)) or risk becoming ineligible for program benefits. This research examines the difference in soil erosion reduction between land that was and was not subject to HELIC, whether incentives to comply with conservation requirements changed between the 2008 and 2014 Agricultural Act, and the importance of crop insurance premium subsidies as compliance incentives.

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Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 12/02/16 Completed: 4/11/17 Withdrawn: X/X/X

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