

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Trends in U.S. Irrigated Agriculture: Increasing Resilience under Water Supply Scarcity

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

Agency: Economic Research Service Influential Scientific Information
USDA Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

Agency Contact: Kelly Maguire, kelly.b.maguire@usda.gov

Subject of Review: Irrigated agriculture is a vital part of the U.S. agricultural economy. In 2017, irrigated cropland accounted for over 53% of the total value of crop sales on less than 20% of harvested cropland. Irrigation allows for agricultural production in arid regions where natural precipitation is insufficient to meet crop water requirements while supplementing available soil-moisture and providing a critical buffer against drought in more humid regions with variable growing-season rainfall. However, surface-water supply shortfalls during prolonged drought are increasingly taxing the ability of regional water systems to meet the demands of the irrigation sector and growing urban populations. At the same time, major aquifers supporting irrigated agriculture are in decline across the U.S. The resiliency of irrigated agriculture will depend on how the sector, and the institutions that influence water supply and use, adapt to increasing water scarcity.

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 Individual Reviewers
 Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 10/30/2020 Completed: 03/12/2021 Withdrawn: XX/XX/XX

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

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: Agency Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes No

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

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No