

require an alternative means for communication of information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, on July 3, 2006.

**Michael W. Yost,**

*Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.*

[FR Doc. 06-6158 Filed 7-11-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP): Data Collection Requirements

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) invites the general public and other public agencies to provide input on a proposed information collection as set forth in the Proposed Rulemaking entitled "Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program" (SFMNP) that was published in the **Federal Register** on May 26, 2005. The comment period is open to provide State agencies, local governments, and non-profit organizations the opportunity to comment on the data collection burden. **DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before September 11, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

FNS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice.

Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- **Mail:** Send comments to Debra R. Whitford, Chief, Policy and Program Development Branch, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 528, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

- **Web site:** Go to <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments through the link at the Supplemental Food Programs Division Web site.

- **E-Mail:** Send comments to [WICHQ-SFPD@fns.usda.gov](mailto:WICHQ-SFPD@fns.usda.gov). Include Docket Number and title in the subject line of the message.

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

In all cases, including when comments are sent via e-mail, please label your comments as "Proposed Collection of Information: Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program."

All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 522, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of this information should be directed to Debra R. Whitford at the address indicated above or at (703) 305-2746.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.

**OMB Number:** To be assigned.

**Expiration Date:** 3 years from date of approval.

**Type of Request:** New Information Collection.

**Abstract:** The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-171, also known as the Farm Bill) gives the Department of Agriculture the authority to promulgate regulations for the operation and administration of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP). The purposes of the SFMNP are to provide resources in the form of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs from farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture (CSA) programs to low-income seniors; to increase the domestic

consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic farmers' markets, roadside stands, and CSA programs; and to develop or aid in the development of new and additional farmers' markets, roadside stands, and CSA programs.

Such requirements include, but are not limited to, financial information used to reconcile and close out SFMNP grants, submission of annual State Plans of Operation that describe in detail the operation and administration of the SFMNP at the State and local levels, local agency and authorized outlet (farmer, farmers' market, roadside stand, and/or community supported agriculture (CSA) program) applications and agreements, racial/ethnic participation data for all program participants, State agency nutrition education agreements, and State agency corrective action plans. FNS will use the collection of this information to assess how each State agency operates and to ensure the accountability of State agencies, local agencies, and authorized farmers'/farmers' markets, roadside stands, and CSA programs in administering the SFMNP.

USDA published a proposed rulemaking on the SFMNP on May 26, 2005, that contained an estimated information collection burden based on the proposed rule's requirements for program operation and administration. The Department is now soliciting comments on the accuracy and reasonableness of this estimated burden, prior to publication of a final SFMNP rulemaking.

#### Burden Estimate

##### 1. Reporting

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 904,088.

**Respondents include State agencies, local agencies, recipients, and authorized SFMNP outlets (farmers, farmers' markets, roadside stands, and CSA programs).**

**Estimated Average Number of Responses per Respondent:** 1.

**Estimated Time per Response:** 0.2601 hours.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 235,153 hours.

##### 2. Recordkeeping

**Estimated Number of Recordkeepings:** 900,235.

**Respondents include State and local agencies.**

**Estimated Average Number of Recordkeepings per Respondent:** 1.

**Estimated Time per Recordkeeping:** 0.25 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 227,209 hours.  
*Total Annual Reporting/ Recordkeeping Requirements:* 462,362 hours.

Dated: July 6, 2006.

**Roberto Salazar,**

*Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*  
 [FR Doc. E6-10960 Filed 7-11-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2006-0011]

#### Harvard Risk Assessment of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Update; Notice of Availability and Technical Meeting

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and announcement of technical meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing the availability of an updated risk assessment model and report for BSE. The previous risk assessment, released in October 2003, was revised to incorporate information available through December 2003, including the discovery of a BSE-infected cow in Washington State. The revised risk assessment model evaluates the impact of measures implemented after the discovery of the BSE-positive cow and recommendations made by an international BSE panel. FSIS will also hold a technical meeting to discuss the updated risk assessment model and report.

**DATES:** The public meeting will be held on July 25, 2006, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Comments on the updated Harvard Risk Assessment must be received by August 11, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will take place in the Jefferson Auditorium of the South Building of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, 20250. Meeting attendees must enter the South Building at Wing 1, 14th and Independence Avenue. FSIS will finalize an agenda on or before the meeting date and will post it on the FSIS Internet Web page [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News/Meetings\\_&\\_Events/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News/Meetings_&_Events/). The updated risk assessment is available for viewing by the public in the FSIS docket room and on the FSIS Web site at: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Risk\\_Assessments/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Risk_Assessments/index.asp).

All comments and the official transcript of the meeting will be available for viewing by the public in the FSIS docket room and on the FSIS Web site when they become available.

Comments on the updated Harvard Risk Assessment may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** This Web site provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on this Web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and, in the "Search for Open Regulations" box, select "Food Safety and Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu, and then click on "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select FDMS Docket Number FSIS-2006-0011 to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically. This docket can be viewed using the "Advanced Search" function in Regulations.gov.

- Mail, including floppy disks or CD-ROM's, and hand- or courier-delivered items: Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 102 Cotton Annex, Washington, DC 20250.

- Electronic mail: [fsis.regulationscomments@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:fsis.regulationscomments@fsis.usda.gov).

All submissions received by mail and electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2006-0011. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be available for public inspection in the FSIS Docket Room at the address listed above between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The comments also will be posted to the [regulations.gov](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/2006_Notices_Index/index.asp) Web site and on the Agency's Web site at: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations\\_&\\_policies/2006\\_Notices\\_Index/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/2006_Notices_Index/index.asp).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Chuanfa Guo, Senior Risk Analyst, Risk Assessment Division, Office of Public Health Science, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 344, Aerospace Center, Washington, DC 20250-3700; Telephone (202) 690-0817, e-mail [Chuanfa.guo@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Chuanfa.guo@fsis.usda.gov).

Pre-registration for this meeting is recommended. To pre-register, please contact Diane Jones at (202) 720-9692 or by e-mail at [Diane.Jones@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Diane.Jones@fsis.usda.gov). Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or special accommodations should contact Ms. Jones as soon as possible.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In April 1998, USDA entered into a cooperative agreement with the Harvard

Center for Risk Analysis (HCRA) of the Harvard School of Public Health and the Center for Computational Epidemiology at Tuskegee University to conduct a comprehensive investigation of the BSE risk in the United States. The report,<sup>1</sup> widely referred to as the Harvard Risk Assessment, was completed in 2001 and released by USDA in December of that year. Following a peer review conducted in 2002, the authors of the risk assessment responded to the peer review comments and submitted a revised risk assessment to USDA in October 2003.<sup>2</sup>

Following confirmation on December 23, 2003, of BSE in a cow in Washington State, both USDA and the Department of Health and Human Service's (HHS's) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) implemented measures to strengthen protections against BSE in the United States. In May 2004, USDA contracted with the HCRA to revise the Harvard Risk Assessment model to reflect information available through December 2003. USDA also contracted with the HCRA to develop a new baseline for the risk assessment model, analyze the effects of the measures implemented by USDA and FDA in response to the confirmation of the BSE case in Washington State, and analyze recommendations made by an international expert BSE panel that was convened at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture to review the actions taken by the United States in response to the confirmation of the BSE case in Washington State.

The authors submitted an updated risk assessment to FSIS in June 2005, and a peer review of the updated risk assessment was completed in September 2005. The final updated risk assessment and the revised risk assessment model

<sup>1</sup> Harvard Center for Risk Analysis, Harvard School of Public Health, and Center for Computational Epidemiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Tuskegee University, "Evaluation of the Potential for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in the United States," [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/risk\\_assessment/mainreporttext.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/risk_assessment/mainreporttext.pdf), 2001.

<sup>2</sup> Research Triangle Institute, "Review of the Evaluation of the Potential for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in the United States," accessed online at [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/BSE\\_Peer\\_Review.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/BSE_Peer_Review.pdf), 2002.

Harvard Center for Risk Analysis, Harvard School of Public Health, "Evaluation of the Potential for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in the United States: Response to Reviewer Comments Submitted by Research Triangle Institute," <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/ResponseToComments.pdf>, 2003.

Harvard Center for Risk Analysis, Harvard School of Public Health, and Center for Computational Epidemiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Tuskegee University, "Evaluation of the Potential for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in the United States," <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/madcow.pdf>, 2003.