

(calendar year 2011 Cost of Living Increase)) = \$41.30 + \$8.63 (benefits rate) + \$.75 (travel and operating rate) + \$16.68 (overhead rate) + \$.02 (bad debt allowance rate) = \$67.37 (rounded to \$67.36).

#### Calculations for the Benefits, Travel and Operating, Overhead, and Allowance for Bad Debt Rates

These rates are components of the basetime, overtime, holiday, and laboratory services rates formulas.

**Benefits Rate:** The quotient of dividing the previous fiscal year's direct benefits costs by the previous fiscal year's total hours (regular, overtime, and holiday), plus that quotient multiplied by the calendar year's percentage cost of living increase. Some examples of direct benefits are health insurance, retirement, life insurance, and Thrift Savings Plan basic and matching contributions.

The calculation for the 2012 benefits rate per hour per program employee is:

[FY 2011 Direct Benefits/(Total Regular hours + Total Overtime hours + Total Holiday hours) (\$166,026,487/19,605,254)] = \$8.47 + (\$8.47 \* 1.9% (calendar year 2012 Cost of Living Increase)) = \$8.63.

**Travel and Operating Rate:** The quotient of dividing the previous fiscal year's total direct travel and operating costs by the previous fiscal year's total hours (regular, overtime, and holiday), plus that quotient multiplied by the calendar year's percentage of inflation.

The calculation for the 2012 travel and operating rate per hour per program employee is:

[FY 2011 Total Direct Travel and Operating Costs/(Total Regular hours + Total Overtime hours + Total Holiday hours) (\$14,478,697/19,605,254)] = \$.74 + (\$.74 \* 1.6% (2012 Inflation)) = \$.75.

**Overhead Rate:** The quotient of dividing the previous fiscal year's indirect costs plus the previous fiscal year's information technology (IT) costs in the Public Health Data

Communication Infrastructure System Fund plus the previous fiscal year's Office of Management Program cost in the Reimbursable and Voluntary Funds plus the provision for the operating balance less any Greenbook costs (i.e., costs of USDA support services prorated to the service component for which fees are charged) that are not related to food inspection by the previous fiscal year's total hours (regular, overtime, and holiday) worked across all funds, plus that quotient multiplied by the calendar year's percentage of inflation.

The calculation for the 2012 overhead rate per hour per program employee is:

[FY 2011 Total Overhead/(Total Regular hours + Total Overtime hours + Total Holiday hours)(\$321,859,390/19,605,254)] = \$16.42 + (\$16.42 \* 1.6% (2012 Inflation)) = \$16.68.

**Allowance for Bad Debt Rate =** Previous fiscal year's total allowance for bad debt (for example, debt owed that is not paid in full by plants and establishments that declare bankruptcy) divided by previous fiscal year's total hours (regular, overtime, and holiday) worked.

The 2012 calculation for bad debt rate per hour per program employee is:

[FY 2011 Total Bad Debt/(Total Regular hours + Total Overtime hours + Total Holiday hours) = (\$330,639/19,605,254)] = \$.02.

#### Additional Public Notification

FSIS will announce this document online through the FSIS Web page located at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations\\_&\\_policies/Federal\\_Register\\_Notices/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/Federal_Register_Notices/index.asp).

FSIS will also make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade groups, consumer interest groups, health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is also available on the FSIS Web page. In addition, FSIS offers an electronic mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Email\\_Subscription/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Email_Subscription/). Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done at Washington, DC, on: December 19, 2011.

**Alfred V. Almanza,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2011-32875 Filed 12-22-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2011-0027]

#### Notice of Request for a Revision and Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection (Voluntary Recalls of Meat and Poultry Products)

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

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, this notice announces the Food Safety and Inspection Service's (FSIS) intention to request a revision of an approved information collection regarding voluntary recalls from commerce of meat and poultry products. FSIS is revising the information collection to increase the estimate of the total burden hours. The Agency also is requesting an extension of the OMB approval for this information collection, which will expire on July 31, 2012.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received on or before February 21, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by either 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>. Follow the online instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- **Mail, including floppy disks or CD-ROMs, and hand- or courier-delivered items:** Send to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Docket Clerk, Patriots Plaza 3, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 8-163A, Mailstop 3782, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

**Instructions:** All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2011-0027. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**Docket:** For access to background documents or comments received, go to the FSIS Docket Room at the address listed above between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act

Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 6065 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700; (202) 720-0345.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Voluntary Recalls of Meat and Poultry Products.

*OMB Control Number:* 0583-0135.

*Expiration Date:* 07/31/2012.

*Type of Request:* Revision of an approved information collection.

*Abstract:* FSIS, by delegation (7 CFR 2.18, 2.53), exercises the functions of the Secretary as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451, *et seq.*). These statutes mandate that FSIS protect the public by verifying that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged.

FSIS is requesting a revision of an approved information collection addressing paperwork requirements regarding the Agency's voluntary recalls from commerce of meat and poultry products to increase the estimate of the total burden hours because the number of recalls has increased. The Agency also is requesting an extension of the approval for this information collection because it will expire July 31, 2012. Although FSIS is responsible for the inspection of egg products under the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA) (21 U.S.C. 1031, *et seq.*), the Food and Drug Administration handles the recalls of egg products under a Memorandum of Understanding with FSIS.

A firm that has produced or imported meat or poultry product that is adulterated or misbranded and is being distributed in commerce may voluntarily recall the product in question. When there is a recall, FSIS asks that the recalling firm (e.g., a manufacturer, distributor, or importer of record) provide the Agency with some basic information, including the identity of the recalled product, the reason for the recall, and information about the distributors and retail consignees to whom the product was actually shipped. Under the FMIA, firms are required to keep such records that fully and correctly disclose all transactions in their business (21 U.S.C. 642). Under the PPIA, firms are required to keep such records as are properly necessary for the effective enforcement of the PPIA (21 U.S.C. 460(b)).

When a firm voluntarily recalls a product, FSIS conducts recall effectiveness checks. In conducting recall effectiveness checks, if the recall is to the retail or consumer level, the

Agency contacts the distributors and actual retail consignees to ensure that they were notified of the recall, to verify the amount of product they received, and to confirm that they are removing the product from commerce and returning it to the recalling firm or otherwise disposing of the product.

FSIS has made the following estimates based upon an information collection assessment.

*Estimate of Burden:* FSIS estimates that it will take respondents an average of approximately 1.1 hours to collect and make this information available to FSIS.

*Respondents:* Official establishments, importers of record, and retail consignees.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 6,087.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 6,740 hours.

Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 6065 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700; (202) 720-0345.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS'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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to both FSIS, at the addresses provided above, and the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20253.

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.

**USDA Nondiscrimination Statement**

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Done at Washington, DC, on December 19, 2011.

**Alfred V. Almanza,**  
Administrator.

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