

the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Dana Coale, Office of the Deputy Administrator, USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, Room 2968-S, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20090-6465; Tel: 202-720-4392, Fax: 202-690-3410 or via email at: [dana.coale@ams.usda.gov](mailto:dana.coale@ams.usda.gov).

All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

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

Dated: August 3, 2015.

**Rex A. Barnes,**

*Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. 2015-19327 Filed 8-11-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2015-0035]

#### National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is announcing that the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods (NACMCF) will hold meetings of the full Committee and subcommittees on September 9-11, 2015. The Committee will discuss: (1) Effective Salmonella Control Strategies for Poultry and (2) Virulence Factors and Attributes that Define Foodborne Shiga Toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) as Severe Human Pathogens.

**DATES:** The full Committee will hold an open meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Subcommittee on Effective Salmonella Control Strategies for Poultry and the Subcommittee on Virulence Factors and Attributes that Define Foodborne Shiga Toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) as Severe Human Pathogens will hold concurrent open subcommittee meetings on Wednesday, June 9, 2015 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, September 10, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Friday, September 11, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The September 9, 2015, full Committee meeting will be held at the Residence Inn by Marriott, Washington DC, 333 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20024. The subcommittee meetings will be held at the Patriot's Plaza III, 1st Floor Auditorium and Conference Rooms, 355 E. Street SW., Washington, DC 20024. All documents related to the full Committee meeting will be available for public inspection in the FSIS Docket Room, USDA, 355 E. Street SW., Patriots Plaza 3, Room 8-164, Washington, DC 20250-3700, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, as soon as they become available. The NACMCF documents will also be available on the Internet 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 finalize an agenda on or before the meeting dates and post it on the FSIS Web page at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News/Meetings\\_&\\_Events/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News/Meetings_&_Events/). Please note that the meeting agenda is subject to change due to the time required for Committee discussions; thus, sessions could start or end earlier or later than anticipated. Please plan accordingly if you would like to attend a particular session or participate in a public comment period.

Also, the official transcript of the September 9, 2015, full Committee meeting, when it becomes available, will be kept in the FSIS Docket Room at the above address and will also be posted on [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/About/NACMCF\\_Meetings/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/About/NACMCF_Meetings/).

The mailing address for the contact person is: Karen Thomas-Sharp, USDA, FSIS, Office of Public Health Science, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Patriots Plaza 3, Mailstop 3777, Room 9-47, Washington, DC 20250.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Persons interested in making a presentation, submitting technical papers, or providing comments at the September 1, plenary session should contact Karen Thomas: Phone: (202) 690-6620; Fax (202) 690-6334; Email: [Karen.thomas-sharp@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Karen.thomas-sharp@fsis.usda.gov) or at the mailing address above. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should notify Ms. Thomas by September 1, 2015.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The NACMCF was established in 1988, in response to a recommendation of the National Academy of Sciences for an interagency approach to microbiological criteria for foods, and in response to a recommendation of the U.S. House of Representatives

Committee on Appropriations, as expressed in the Rural Development, Agriculture, and Related Agencies Appropriation Bill for fiscal year 1988. The charter for the NACMCF is available for viewing on the FSIS Internet Web page at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/About/NACMCF\\_Charter/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/About/NACMCF_Charter/).

The NACMCF provides scientific advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on public health issues relative to the safety and wholesomeness of the U.S. food supply, including development of microbiological criteria and review and evaluation of epidemiological and risk assessment data and methodologies for assessing microbiological hazards in foods. The Committee also provides scientific advice and recommendations to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Departments of Commerce and Defense.

Mr. Brian Ronholm, Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA, is the Committee Chair; Dr. Susan T. Mayne, Director of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), is the Vice-Chair; and Dr. James Rogers, FSIS, is the Executive Secretary.

#### Documents Reviewed by NACMCF

FSIS will make all materials reviewed and considered by NACMCF regarding its deliberations available to the public. Generally, these materials will be made available as soon as possible after the full Committee meeting. Further, FSIS intends to make these materials available in electronic format on the FSIS Web page ([www.fsis.usda.gov](http://www.fsis.usda.gov)), as well as in hard copy format in the FSIS Docket Room. FSIS will try to make the materials available at the start of the full Committee meeting when sufficient time is allowed in advance to do so.

**Disclaimer:** NACMCF documents and comments posted on the FSIS Web site are electronic conversions from a variety of source formats. In some cases, document conversion may result in character translation or formatting errors. The original document is the official, legal copy.

In order to meet the electronic and information technology accessibility standards in Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, NACMCF may add alternate text descriptors for non-text elements (graphs, charts, tables, multimedia, etc.). These modifications only affect the Internet copies of the documents.

Copyrighted documents will not be posted on the FSIS Web site, but will be

available for inspection in the FSIS Docket Room.

### Additional Public Notification

FSIS will announce this notice online through the FSIS Web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulations/federal-register/federal-register-notices>.

FSIS also will 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 also is 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/wps/portal/fsis/programs-and-services/email-subscription-service>. 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.

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Done at Washington, DC on: August 6, 2015.

**Alfred V. Almanza,**  
Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2015-19748 Filed 8-11-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

[FNS-2015-0013]

#### Request for Information: SNAP and WIC Seeking Input Regarding Procurement and Implementation of Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Services; Extension of Comment Period

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice; Extension of Comment Period.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is interested in identifying ways to stimulate increased competition in the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) marketplace and identify procurement or systems features that are barriers to new entrants. FNS is also seeking suggestions which will improve procurement of the delivery of EBT transaction processing services through modifications to, or replacement of, the existing business model. The procurement and implementation of EBT systems by State agencies administering the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) needs to be sustainable for all parties involved.

The landscape of EBT is in a heightened state of change, due in part to the recent decision by one of three primary companies providing EBT transaction processing services for SNAP and WIC to no longer solicit or accept any new prepaid card business, including for SNAP and WIC EBT services. In addition, there are numerous EBT projects moving toward the October 1, 2020, statutorily-mandated deadline for WIC Program implementation.

This Request for Information (RFI) seeks to obtain input from EBT stakeholders and other financial payment industry members and interested parties, regarding options and alternatives available to improve the procurement and current operational aspects of EBT. In this document, FNS has posed various questions to prompt stakeholder responses. We intend to consider and follow up on the alternatives and suggestions that appear to be most viable from both a technical and a cost/benefit standpoint.

Interested stakeholders are invited to respond to any or all of the questions that follow, and to identify issues which may not be listed.

FNS is extending the comment period to provide additional time for interested parties to review this Request for Information.

**DATES:** The comment period for the notice that was published on June 23, 2015 (80 FR 35932) has been extended from August 24, 2015 to October 24, 2015. To be assured of consideration, comments must be received on or before October 24, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically. Comments can also be mailed or delivered to: Andrea Gold, Director, Retailer Policy and Management Division, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 424, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

All comments submitted in response to this notice will be included in the record and will be made available to the public at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Please be advised that the substance of the comments and the identity of the individuals or entities commenting will be subject to public disclosure.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrea Gold, Director, Retailer Policy and Management Division, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, (703) 305-2434, or via email at [andrea.gold@fns.usda.gov](mailto:andrea.gold@fns.usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

All SNAP State agencies and some WIC State agencies conduct EBT using magnetic stripe cards similar to debit or credit cards. Almost all EBT systems today are integrated such that all of the service requirements are provided within a single system to the relevant State agencies, often referred to as a turnkey system. Over the years, some States have obtained SNAP EBT services by contracting for individual EBT service components to one or more service providers (such as authorization platform, retailer management, transaction switching, client help desk services, and card production). A few State agencies have performed certain EBT services themselves, to control costs or meet the needs of State operations. These State-operated services may include such functions as transaction authorization, retailer training and management, EBT card distribution, and management and customer service.

In the WIC Program, several of the State agencies use smart card or chip