This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary

Extension of Period To Submit Expression of Interest for Potential Sites for Headquarters Office Locations

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is extending the period for interested parties to submit an expression of interest for a proposed new headquarters location for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and the Economic Research Service (ERS). The Department is extending the period to submit an expression of interest for 30 days.

DATES: The notice of a request to submit expression of interests published on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 is being extended. Interested parties wishing to submit an expression of interest should do so in writing by October 15, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit comments regarding this notice. All submissions must refer to "Expression of Interest" to ensure proper delivery.

• Electronic Submission of Expression of Interest. Interested persons may submit information electronically to the following email address relocation@usda.gov.

• Submission of Comments by Mail, Hand delivery, or Courier. Paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions should be submitted to Donald K. Bice, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, USDA, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 240–W, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald K. Bice, Telephone Number: (202) 720–3291.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On Wednesday, August 15, 2018 (83 FR 40499), the Department published a notice of a request for expression of interest for potential sites for headquarters office locations for NIFA and ERS. USDA is interested in exploring options to house the headquarters of NIFA and ERS jointly or in separate locations. The original deadline to submit an expression of interest was September 14, 2018. This action extends the submission period for 30 days. Submissions must now be received on or before October 15, 2018.


Donald K. Bice, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration.

[FPR Doc. 2018–19877 Filed 9–12–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–90–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Food Safety and Inspection Service

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FSIS–2018–0036]

Joint Public Meeting on the Use of Cell Culture Technology To Develop Products Derived From Livestock and Poultry

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA; Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting: request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are hosting a joint public meeting to discuss the potential hazards, oversight considerations, and labeling of cell cultured food products derived from livestock and poultry tissue. FSIS and FDA officials will make presentations on their roles and responsibilities relative to the production and labeling of safe and wholesome food and their respective regulatory frameworks, including their inspection systems, as a basis for discussing what oversight framework might be most appropriate for cell cultured food products derived from livestock and poultry. Representatives of industry, interested individuals, and other stakeholders are invited to participate in the meeting.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Wednesday, October 24, 2018, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. EDT. Submit either electronic or written comments on this public meeting by November 26, 2018.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Jefferson Auditorium in the South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250. Attendance is free. Non-USDA employees must enter through the Wing 5 entrance on Independence Avenue. The South Building is a Federal facility and attendees should plan to take adequate time to pass through the security screening system. Attendees must show a valid photo ID to enter the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roxanne Smith, Director, Congressional and Public Affairs in the FSIS Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Education at (202) 720–4413 or roxanne.smith@fsis.usda.gov; as well as Juanita Yates, Public Affairs Specialist in the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition at (240) 402–1731 or Juanita.yates@fda.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Further information on this meeting will be posted on the FSIS website at: https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/newsroom/meetings and through the FSIS Constituent Update, and on the FDA website at: https://www.fda.gov/Food/NewsEvents/WorkshopsMeetingsConferences/default.htm.

Background

FSIS is the public health agency responsible for ensuring that meat, poultry, and egg products are safe, wholesome, and accurately labeled. FDA has responsibility for ensuring the safety of all other foods, including seafood (except catfish) and game animals as well as ensuring that the labels of these foods contain useful and reliable information.

Animal cell culture food technology, as will be discussed at the public meeting, refers to the controlled growth of animal cells from livestock, poultry, fish, or other animals, their subsequent differentiation into various cell types, and their collection and processing into food. Full tissue formation in culture is
an active medical research area, as well as a strong focus of commercial interest for food applications. Many companies, both domestic and foreign, are actively developing products using this technology. Some of these products are being designed to have the same or similar compositional, nutritional, and organoleptic characteristics as traditional meat and poultry products. Once produced, the harvested cells could potentially be processed, packaged, and marketed in the same, or similar, manner as traditional meat and poultry products.

In the past several months, FSIS has received a significant amount of correspondence regarding the food products of animal cell culture technology. Much of the correspondence is in regard to a petition from the United States Cattlemen’s Association to FSIS requesting, among other things, that FSIS prohibit products derived from livestock and manufactured using animal cell culture technology from being labeled or marketed as “beef” or “meat.” The publication of this petition and related comments received by FSIS has brought significant attention to animal cell culture based food products. To date, FSIS has received over 6,100 comments on this petition from industry trade associations; consumer advocacy groups; firms operating in the meat, poultry, and/or cell culture based food product markets; and consumers. In recent years, FDA also has been contacted by firms interested in developing foods that incorporate cultured animal cells from various species and has had a number of stakeholder engagements on this topic.

FDA, with USDA’s participation, is developing technical questions related to cell cultured food products to put before FDA’s Science Advisory Board on October 22, 2018 (notice will be published in an upcoming issue of the Federal Register). The intent of these questions is to support a process for identifying potential hazards, assessing risks, and establishing control measures appropriate to each risk for cell cultured food products. The dialogue with stakeholders at the joint public meeting that is the subject of this announcement will be informed by the FDA Science Board discussion, which will occur the previous day.

Topics for Discussion at the Joint Public Meeting

Given the high level of public interest, FSIS and FDA will be holding this joint public meeting on October 22 to further discuss cell culture technology and provide the public with an opportunity to provide comments. The first day of the meeting will focus primarily on the potential hazards that need to be controlled for the safe production of animal cell cultured food products and oversight considerations by regulatory agencies. The second day of the meeting will focus on labeling considerations. General topics to be covered and discussed include:

• Potential hazards associated with the production of these products and a discussion on whether they are the same hazards as those associated with traditional meat and poultry products. What are the most significant sources of potential hazards for each and how are they similar and different?
• Strategies to ensure that all potential hazards are identified and appropriately controlled, including consideration of various factors relevant to determining oversight activities for these products, such as:
  ○ Is there an effective and efficient application of pre-market programs to ensure the safety of foods produced by animal cell culture?
  ○ What type and frequency of inspection will be appropriate for various stages of the manufacture of these products?
  ○ What type and frequency of inspection will be appropriate for products that combine cell cultured food products and other ingredients (e.g., multicomponent foods like soups, protein bars that contain cell cultured protein as an ingredient, or products that contain both traditional meat or poultry as well as cell cultured ingredients, including food products of animal cell culture derived from livestock and poultry tissue)?
• FSIS and FDA are actively working to reduce the duplicative and inefficient regulation of establishments and products under both agencies’ jurisdiction. How could this be done for products of animal cell culture derived from livestock and poultry?
• What factors should be considered in the labeling of products of animal cell culture? Questions include:
  ○ Should standards of identity or criteria for statements of identity be established for these products to ensure that product names are truthful, not misleading, and sufficiently differentiate cell cultured products from traditional products?
  ○ Should the methods by which animal cell cultured products are produced (i.e., the culturing process be considered required information for purposes of labeling? If so, what factors should be considered in accurately describing the production methods?

○ Should the source of the animal cells (i.e., the species from which the cell line was initiated) be considered required information for the purposes of labeling?
○ What factors should be considered in potentially allowing health, safety, and other claims in the marketing of animal cell cultured products?
○ How should products containing both animal cell cultured products and traditional meat and poultry products be labeled?

Public Comments and Participation in Meetings

Registration

To register for the public meeting, please visit the following website: https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/newsroom/meetings/meetings-archive/upcoming-meetings/meeting-registration-cell-culture-technology. Please provide complete contact information for each attendee, including name, title, affiliation, address, email, and telephone.

Registration is free and voluntary and based on space availability, with priority given to early registrants. Persons interested in attending this public meeting are requested to register by Friday, October 19, 2018, although non-registered attendees may still participate subject to availability. Early registration is recommended because seating is limited. Registrants will receive confirmation of their registration.

Accommodations for Persons With Disabilities

To request accommodations due to a disability, please indicate any accommodations needed when registering. FSIS and FDA will provide sign language interpreters for this meeting.

Attendees from the media will also be asked to identify themselves during the registration process.

Public Comments: Oral Comments

Stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide oral comments during the public meeting. Due to the anticipated high level of interest in the opportunity to make public comments and the limited time available to do so, FSIS and FDA encourage participants to indicate when registering if they wish to give public comment during a public comment session and which topic(s) you wish to address. FSIS and FDA will do their best to accommodate all persons who wish to express an opinion. FSIS and FDA encourage persons and groups who have similar
Phone: (202) 720–5627 to schedule a time to visit the FSIS Docket Room at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 6065, Washington, DC 20250–3700.

Question-and-Answer Periods

Time has been allotted for audience questions after most presentations delivered during the meeting. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions via a microphone in the auditorium.

**Streaming Webcast of the Public Meeting**

This public meeting will also be webcast. Webcast participants are asked to preregister at https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/newsroom/meetings/meetings-archive/upcoming-meetings/meeting-registration-cell-culture-technology.

**Transcripts**

The transcript of the proceedings from the public meeting will become part of the administrative record. As soon as the meeting transcripts are available, they will be accessible at https://www.regulations.gov; on the FSIS website at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/newsroom/meetings; or on the FDA website at https://www.fda.gov/Food/NewsEvents/WorkshopsMeetingsConferences/default.htm. The transcripts may also be viewed at the FSIS Docket Room at the address listed above.

**Additional Public Notification**

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this Federal Register publication online through the FSIS web page located at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register and on the FDA website at: https://www.fda.gov/Food/NewsEvents/WorkshopsMeetingsConferences/default.htm.

FSIS also will make copies of this 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 our constituents and stakeholders. The Constituent Update is available on the FSIS web page. Through the web page, FSIS can provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email 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/subscribe. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at: http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_12.pdf, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email: Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–9410.

Fax: (202) 690–7442.

Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington, DC, on September 7, 2018.

Paul Kiecker,
Acting Administrator.

Leslie Kux,
Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[PR Doc. 2018–19907 Filed 9–10–18; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 3410–DM–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Economics and Statistics Administration**

**Performance Review Board Membership**

**AGENCY:** Economics and Statistics Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4), the Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA) announces the appointment of members who will serve on the ESA Performance Review Board (PRB). The purpose of the PRB is to provide fair and impartial review of senior executive service and scientific