

establishments that grind raw beef components from multiple suppliers produce product that tests positive for non-O157 STEC.

*Response:* The Agency agrees that FSIS verification sampling and testing of product from slaughter establishments for non-O157 STEC provides useful information on the establishment's process control. The Agency also recognizes that traceback of ground beef made using raw beef components from multiple suppliers to a single slaughter establishment is more difficult than traceback of product made with raw beef components from a single supplier. Moreover, FSIS notes that the 2018 and 2019 outbreaks involved non-O157 STEC from ground beef. Thus, the Agency intends to expand non-O157 STEC sampling and testing to include ground beef, bench trim, and other raw ground beef components, which comprise the other 75 percent of the samples analyzed annually for *E. coli* O157:H7. This will help FSIS verify that certain products (such as bench trim) are not adulterated before they are ground, and that the resulting ground beef is not adulterated.

#### Food Safety Assessment Estimate

*Comment:* With expanded non-O157 STEC testing, the industry organization commented that FSAs based on FSIS non-O157 STEC positive test results alone will unnecessarily increase FSIS and industry expenses. The industry organization noted that FSIS estimated the cost of an FSA to FSIS at \$1,400 in 2014 but in September 2011 estimated that the Agency's FSA cost was \$14,000.

*Response:* The \$14,000 estimate for FSAs in 2011 resulted from high assumptions regarding the resources needed to conduct FSAs related to non-O157 STECs (76 FR 58157) before 2014. For example, it used to take an Enforcement, Investigation, and Analysis Officer (EIAO) over 30 days to complete the in-plant portion of the investigation. The Agency modified the assumptions and the cost estimates for the 2014 CBA based on the new FSA methodology, using the Public Health Risk Evaluation to determine whether an FSA is necessary, which reduced the total number of FSAs. With the new methodology, an EIAO can complete the in-plant portion of the FSA in 5 to 7 days, instead of an average of 38 days, leading to a significant reduction in FSA cost to FSIS. Data collected for FY 2016 suggest that the average STEC-related FSA under the new methodology costs

the Agency about \$4,800.<sup>16</sup> FSIS has updated the CBA using this new number.

#### USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

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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).

#### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the FSIS web page located at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS will also announce and provide a link to it 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 is able to 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.

Done in Washington, DC.

**Paul Kiecker,**

*Administrator.*

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## BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

**TIME AND DATE:** Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. ET.

**PLACE:** Teleconference.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** The U.S. Agency for Global Media's (USAGM) Board of Governors (Board) may conduct a telephonic meeting closed to the public at the time listed above pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B) in order to protect and prevent disclosure of a discussion which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed Agency action. The Board also determined that shorter than usual notice for a meeting was required by official Agency business and delayed availability of required information. The meeting is being called pursuant to Section 2.15 of the USAGM's Board by-laws. In accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act and USAGM policies, any such meeting will be recorded and a transcript of the proceedings, subject to the redaction of information protected by 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6), will be made available to the public. The publicly-releasable transcript will be available for download at [www.usagm.gov](http://www.usagm.gov) within 21 days of the date of the meeting. Information regarding member votes to close the meeting and expected attendees can also be found on the Agency's public website.

#### CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Persons interested in obtaining more information should contact Oanh Tran at (202) 920-2004.

**Chelsea Milko,**

*Special Assistant to the CEO Office.*

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<sup>16</sup>Based on OCFO (Office of Chief Financial Officer) preliminary analysis of average cost per FSA under new FSA methodology, FY 2016.