Notices

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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

[Docket Number: USDA–2021–0003]

Notice of Request for Public Comment on the Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

AGENCY: Office of the Chief Economist, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: On January 27, 2021, President Biden issued an Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad. This Executive Order laid out a series of actions for Federal Agencies to take regarding climate change mitigation and resilience, including directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect stakeholder input on a climate-smart agriculture and forestry strategy. As part of this process, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is seeking input from the public to ensure that relevant information is considered. USDA is interested in your comments in response to the topics, categories and questions shown in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time April 29, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted online via the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to *http://www.regulations.gov* and search for the Docket No. USDA–2021–0003. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. All comments received will be posted without change and publicly available on *www.regulations.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Hohenstein, Director, USDA Office of Energy and Environmental Policy, Phone: 202–720–0450; Email: *CCPOOCE@usda.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Through the Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is being asked to seek public input regarding USDA's climate strategy. Part II Section 216(b) of this Executive Order directs the Secretary of Agriculture to, ''collect input from Tribes, farmers, ranchers, forest owners, conservation groups, firefighters, and other stakeholders on how to best use Department of Agriculture programs, funding and financing capacities, and other authorities, and how to encourage the voluntary adoption of climate-smart agricultural and forestry practices that decrease wildfire risk fueled by climate change and result in additional, measurable, and verifiable carbon reductions and sequestration and that source sustainable bioproducts and fuels.'' This public input will be considered as USDA prepares recommendations to expand climate-smart agriculture and forestry practices and systems. The feedback requested through this Executive Order is far-reaching; it encompasses the best use of USDA programs, funding and financing capabilities, authorities, and encouragement of voluntary conservation adoption.

USDA currently requests public comment on:

1. Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Questions

A. How should USDA utilize programs, funding and financing capacities, and other authorities, to encourage the voluntary adoption of climate-smart agricultural and forestry practices on working farms, ranches, and forest lands?

1. How can USDA leverage *existing* policies and programs to encourage voluntary adoption of agricultural practices that sequester carbon, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and ensure resiliency to climate change?

2. What *new* strategies should USDA explore to encourage voluntary adoption of climate-smart agriculture and forestry practices?

B. How can partners and stakeholders, including State, local and Tribal governments and the private sector, work with USDA in advancing climate-smart agricultural and forestry practices?

C. How can USDA help support emerging markets for carbon and greenhouse gases where agriculture and forestry can supply carbon benefits?

D. What data, tools, and research are needed for USDA to effectively carry out climate-smart agriculture and forestry strategies?

E. How can USDA encourage the voluntary adoption of climate-smart agricultural and forestry practices in an efficient way, where the benefits accrue to producers?

2. Biofuels, Wood and Other Bioproducts, and Renewable Energy Questions

A. How should USDA utilize programs, funding and financing capacities, and other authorities to encourage greater use of biofuels for transportation, sustainable bioproducts (including wood products), and renewable energy?

B. How can incorporating climate-smart agriculture and forestry into biofuel and bioproducts feedstock production systems support rural economies and green jobs?

C. How can USDA support adoption and production of other renewable energy technologies in rural America, such as renewable natural gas from livestock, biomass power, solar, and wind?

3. Addressing Catastrophic Wildfire Questions

A. How should USDA utilize programs, funding and financing capacities, and other authorities to decrease wildfire risk fueled by climate change?

B. How can the various USDA agencies work more cohesively across programs to advance climate-smart forestry practices and reduce the risk of wildfire on all lands?

C. What additional data, tools and research are needed for USDA to effectively reduce wildfire risk and manage Federal lands for carbon?

D. What role should partners and stakeholders play, including State, local and Tribal governments, related to addressing wildfires?

4. Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Communities Questions

A. How can USDA ensure that programs, funding and financing capacities, and other authorities used to advance climate-smart agriculture and forestry practices are available to all landowners, producers, and communities?

B. How can USDA provide technical assistance, outreach, and other assistance necessary to ensure that all

producers, landowners, and communities can participate in USDA programs, funding, and other authorities related to climate-smart agriculture and forestry practices?

C. How can USDA ensure that programs, funding and financing capabilities, and other authorities related to climate-smart agriculture and forestry practices are implemented equitably?

Please provide information including citations and/or contact details for the correspondent when submitting comments to *Regulations.gov*.

Seth Meyer,

Chief Economist, Office of the Chief Economist.

[FR Doc. 2021–05287 Filed 3–15–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2021–0008]

Notice of Request for Approval of an Information Collection; National Animal Health Monitoring System; On-Farm Monitoring of Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in U.S. Broiler Production Study

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: New information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request approval of a new information collection associated with the National Animal Health Monitoring System's On-Farm Monitoring of Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in U.S. Broiler Production Study.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before May 17, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *www.regulations.gov.* Enter APHIS–2021–0008 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.
- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2021–0008, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at *regulations.gov* or in our reading room, which is located in Room 1620 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799–7039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the NAHMS On-Farm Monitoring of Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in U.S. Broiler Production Study, contact Mr. Bill Kelley, Assistant Director, Program Coordination and Implementation, Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health, VS, 2150 Centre Avenue, Building B, Fort Collins, CO 80524; (970) 494–7270. For information on the information collection process, contact Mr. Joseph Moxey, APHIS Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851–2483; *joseph.moxey@usda.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Animal Health Monitoring System; On-Farm Monitoring of Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in U.S. Broiler Production Study.

OMB Control Number: 0579–XXXX.

Type of Request: Approval of a new information collection.

Abstract: Under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is authorized to protect the health of the livestock, poultry, and aquaculture populations in the United States by preventing the introduction and interstate spread of serious diseases and pests of livestock, poultry, and aquaculture, and for eradicating such diseases and pests from the United States, when feasible. Within the USDA, this authority and mission is delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

In connection with this mission, APHIS operates the National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), which collects on a national basis, statistically valid and scientifically sound data on the prevalence and economic importance of livestock, poultry, and aquaculture disease risk factors. APHIS is the only agency responsible for collecting data on livestock, poultry, and aquaculture health. NAHMS' studies have evolved into a collaborative industry and Government initiative to help determine the most effective means of preventing and controlling diseases of livestock, poultry, and aquaculture. Participation in any NAHMS study is voluntary, and all data are confidential.

APHIS plans to conduct the On-Farm Monitoring of Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in U.S. Broiler Production Study as part of an ongoing series of NAHMS studies on the U.S. livestock, poultry, and aquaculture populations. This study will support the following objectives: (1) Measure and track trends in antimicrobial use (AMU) and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in broiler complexes within participating companies over time; (2) Evaluate the relationship between AMU patterns and AMR measured in select bacterial species collected; and (3) Quantify antimicrobial resistance genes in the litter of sampled broiler farms and examine the relationship between these quantities and antimicrobial use patterns.

This study is an information collection conducted by APHIS through a cooperative agreement with the University of Minnesota. The university completed previous work for APHIS under a different cooperative agreement in which APHIS received reports and completed analyses but not farm-level data. APHIS now seeks access to farm-level data that is presented in a manner in which the farms are not identified.

This study will monitor U.S. broiler operations for AMU, AMR, animal health and production practices, and the relationship between AMU, AMR, animal health, production practices, and changes over time. We will collect annual informed consent forms from producers, quarterly survey data, and litter samples from the same poultry complexes, and examine AMR in bacteria such as *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter.* This study meets objectives for both the U.S. National Action Plan for Combating Antibiotic Resistance (2015) and the USDA AMR National Action Plan (2013). Additionally, this information is an essential component in accomplishing one of APHIS' strategic goals, which is to safeguard American agriculture.

APHIS and the University of Minnesota will analyze and organize the information into one or more descriptive reports and scientific manuscripts, and for important or special topics, APHIS will develop and disseminate targeted information sheets to producers, stakeholders, academicians, veterinarians, and any other interested parties. This information benefits the poultry industry by supplying scientific estimates of AMU and stewardship by poultry producers and evaluation of the influence of these and other management practices on AMR.