SUPPORTING STATEMENT JUSTIFICATION FOR
MODERNIZATION OF POULTRY SLAUGHTER INSPECTION

1. Circumstances Making Collection of Information Necessary:

This information collection requests a new information collection related to the Modernization for Poultry Slaughter Inspection rule.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary as provided in the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.). This statute mandates that FSIS protect the public by ensuring that poultry products are safe, wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged.

FSIS is proposing that a new inspection system for young chicken and turkey slaughter establishments that would replace its current poultry inspection system. The Agency is also proposing several changes that would affect all establsihments that slaughter poultry other than ratites.

2. How, By Whom and Purpose For Which Information is to be Used:

The following is a discussion of the required information collection and recordkeeping activities.

FSIS is proposing that all poultry slaughter establishments develop, implement, and, maintain, as part of their HACCP plans, or Sanitation SOPs, or other prerequisite programs written procedures to prevent contamination of carcasses and parts by enteric pathogens, e.g., Salmonella and Campylobacter, and fecal material throughout the entire slaughter and dressing operation. FSIS is proposing that these proccdures must include sampling for microbial organisms at the pre-chill and post-chill points in the process to monitor establshments' process control for enteric pathogens. Poultry establishments would be required to sample as frequently as necessary to show that their sampling is adequate to verify that they have their process in control.

Poultry establishments would also need to record the results of their microbial sampling and maintain the records of the results as supporting documentation as required by their HACCP, Sanitation

SOP, or prerequisite program.

3. Use of Improved Information Technology:

Under the E-Gov Act, firms may keep records electronically provided that appropriate controls are implemented to ensure the integrity of the electronic data.

4. Efforts to Identify Duplication:

No other Government agency requires information regarding enteric pathogens in official poultry establishments. There is no available information that can be used or modified.

5. Methods to Minimize Burden on Small Business Entities:

Data collected from small businesses are the same as for large ones. The information collections must apply to all official poultry establishments. FSIS estimates that 138 small establishments will be subject to this information collection.

6. Consequences If Information Were Collected Less Frequently:

To conduct the information collections less frequently will reduce the effectiveness of the poultry products inspection program.

7. Circumstances that Would Cause the Information Collection to be Conducted in a Manner:

- **requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
- **requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
- **requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
- **requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**

- **in connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;**
- **requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
- **that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or**
- **requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

Establishments will be required to collect and record data more frequently that quarterly. There are no other circumstances that would cause the guidelines above not to be met by this information collection.

8. Consultation with Persons Outside the Agency:

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, FSIS embedded a 60-day notice in the proposed rule that published in the Federal Register on January 27, 2012, requesting comments regarding this information collection.

9. Payment or Gifts to Respondents:

Respondents will not receive any gifts or payments.

10. Confidentiality Provided to Respondents:

No additional assurance of confidentiality is provided with this information collection. Any and all information obtained in this collection shall not be disclosed except in accordance with 5 U.S.C.552a.

11. Questions of a Sensitive Nature:

The applicants are not asked to furnish any information of a sensitive nature.

12. Estimate of Burden

The total burden estimate for the reporting and recordkeeping requirements associated with this information collection is 250,160 hours.

FSIS estimates that a total of 289 establishments would conduct a micro test 1,500,960 times annually for a total of 125,080 hours.

MICROBIAL TESTING
(9 CFR 381.36(c))

Type of Establish-Ment	No. of Respon-dents	No. of Res-ponses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
Large	151	7,650	1,155,150	5	96,262.5
Small	83	3,570	296,310	5	24,692.5
V. Small	55	900	49,500	5	4,125
Total	289	260	1,500,960	5	125,080

FSIS estimates that a total of 289 establishments would record the results of a micro test 1,500,960 times annually for a total of 125,080 hours.

MICROBIAL TESTING DATA RECORDKEEPING
(9 CFR 381.36 (c))

Type of Establish-Ment	No. of Respon-dents	No. of Res-ponses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
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Total	289	260	1,500,960	5	125,080

The cost to the respondents is estimated at $9,255,920 million annually. The Agency estimates that it will cost respondents $37 an hour in fulfilling these paperwork and recordkeeping requirements. Respondents will spend an annual total of 250,160 hours and $9,255,920.

13. Capital and Start-up Cost and Subsequent Maintenance

There are no capital and start-up costs and subsequent maintenance burdens.

14. Annual Cost to Federal Government and Respondents:

The cost to the Federal Government for these information collection requirements is $370,000 annually. The Agency estimates a cost of $37 per hour.

15. Reasons for Changes in Burden:

This is a new information collection.

16. Tabulation, Analyses and Publication Plans:

There are no plans to publish the data for statistical use.

17. OMB Approval Number Display:

FSIS will display the OMB approval number on any instructions it publishes relating to recordkeeping activities.

18. Exceptions to the Certification:

There are no exceptions to the certification. This information collection accords with the certification in item 19 of the OMB 83-I.