

SUPPORTING STATEMENT JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW POULTRY INSPECTION SYSTEM

1. Circumstances Making Collection of Information Necessary:

This is a renewal request for the information collection related to the *New Poultry Inspection System* (previously titled *Modernization of Poultry Slaughter Inspection*). A separate revision to this collection associated with a proposed rule has been submitted to OMB and is currently filed with comment. Because the proposed rule has not been finalized, the Agency is not incorporating the proposed burden reduction at this time. Upon issuance of the final rule, the Agency will submit the appropriate revision to this information collection to reflect the final changes to the burden estimates.

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.

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 requires 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 requires that these procedures include sampling for microbial organisms at the pre-chill and post-chill points in the process to monitor establishments' process control for enteric pathogens, except for low volume establishments that are required to test only at post-chill.

Poultry establishments are also required 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 of 2002, 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 are 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 are required to collect and record data more frequently than 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 published a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** on April 3, 2026 (91 FR 16894) requesting comments regarding this information collection request. The Agency received one public comment that is not relevant to the information collection. The Agency determined the comment is not relevant because it recommends collecting additional information beyond the scope of the current collection. FSIS also contacted three outside individuals to request comment on the Agency's estimates (Director of QA, VPGC, LLC, 540-867-4203; QA Manager, Perdue, 302-855-5527; and HACCP Coordinator, Tip Top Poultry, 770-579-4255). The outside individuals generally agreed that the FSIS burden estimate was accurate. Based on input from the commenters, the Agency is making no changes to the estimated burden.

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 191,204 hours.

FSIS estimates that a total of 289 establishments would conduct a micro test 764,594 times annually for a total of 159,338 hours.

MICROBIAL TESTING (9 CFR 381.36(c))

Type of Establish-Ment	No. of Respon-dents	No. of Res-ponses per Responde nt	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
Large	151	4,322.7	652,734	12.5	135,986
Small	84	1,318	110,711	12.5	23,065
V. Small	54	21.3	1,150	15	288
Total	289		764,594		159,339

FSIS estimates that a total of 289 establishments would record the results of a micro test 764,594 times annually for a total of 31,858 hours.

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

Type of Establish-Ment	No. of Respon-dents	No. of Res-ponses per Responde nt	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
Large	151	4,322.7	652,773	2.5	27,197
Small	84	1,318	110,712	2.5	4,613
V. Small	54	21.3	1,134	2.5	48
Total	289		764,594	2.5	31,858

FSIS estimates that 219 establishments would record the attestation of work-related conditions 219 times annually, for a total of 7.27 hours.

ATTESTATION OF WORK-RELATED CONDITIONS

Respondents: Establishments Operating under the NPIS		Estimated No. of Re- spondents	Average Annual No. of Re- sponses per Respond ent	Total Annual Re- sponses	Time per Re- sponse in Minutes	Total Annual Burden Hours
Large establishments	Attestation on Work-Related Conditions	149	1	149	2	4.97
Small establishments	Attestation on Work-Related Conditions	70	1	70	2	2.3
Very small establishments		0	0	0		0
	Total Reporting Burden	219	1	219		7.27

The cost to the respondents is estimated at \$10,864,211 annually. The Agency estimates that it will cost respondents \$53.59 an hour, including fringe benefits, in fulfilling these information collection requirements. Respondents will spend an annual total of 191,204 hours and \$10,864,211. The hourly rate for the respondents was attained from the Department of Labor Bureau of Labor and Statistics wage data, May, 2025.

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 \$680,400 annually. The Agency estimates a cost of \$68.04 per hour, including fringe benefits, for Agency personnel time.

15. Reasons for Changes in Burden:

There is no change to the burden in this information collection. The collection has 289 respondents, 1,529,407 responses, and 191,204 hours.

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.

