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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. **FSIS-2025-0248**]

Notice of Request to Renew an Approved Information

Collection: Sanitation SOPs and Pathogen Reduction/HACCP

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S.

Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, FSIS is announcing its intention to request renewal of the approved information collection regarding Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures (Sanitation SOPs) and pathogen testing and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems requirements. There are no changes to the existing information collection. The approval for this information collection will expire on July 31, 2026.

DATES: Submit comments on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this **Federal Register** notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This website provides commenters the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on the web page or to attach a file for lengthier

comments. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- **Mail:** Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

- **Hand- or courier-delivered submittals:** Deliver to 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 350-E, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

Instructions: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2025-0248. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Docket: For access to background documents or comments received, call (202) 286-2255 to schedule a time to visit the FSIS Docket Room at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gina Kouba, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700; 202-720-5046.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Sanitation SOPs and Pathogen Reduction/HACCP.

OMB Number: 0583-0103.

Type of Request: Renewal of an approved information collection.

Abstract: FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary (7 CFR 2.18, 2.53) as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, et seq.), and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451, et seq.). These statutes mandate that FSIS protect the public by verifying that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled.

FSIS is announcing its intention to request renewal of the approved information collection regarding Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures (Sanitation SOPs), pathogen reduction, and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems requirements. There are no changes to the existing information collection. The approval for this information collection will expire on July 31, 2026.

FSIS regulations require that establishments: develop, implement, and revise, as needed, written Sanitation SOPs (9 CFR part 416); (2) conduct regular microbial testing to verify the adequacy of process controls for the prevention and removal of fecal contamination and associated bacteria (9 CFR 9 CFR 310.18, 310.25(a), or 381.65 (f) and (g)); and (3) develop and implement a system of preventive controls designed to improve the safety of their products, known as HACCP, and maintain necessary records to support the system (9 CFR part 417).

Establishments may have programs that are prerequisite to HACCP that are designed to provide the basic environmental and

operating conditions necessary for the production of safe, wholesome food. Because of its prerequisite programs, an establishment may decide that a food safety hazard is not reasonably likely to occur in its operations. The establishment would need to document this determination in its hazard analysis and include the procedures it employs to ensure that the program is working and that the hazard is not likely to occur (9 CFR 417.5(a)(1)).

FSIS has made the estimates below based upon an information collection assessment:

Respondents: Meat and poultry establishments.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 6,087.

Estimated annual burden on respondents: 7,045,303 hours.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record. Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from Gina Kouba, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700; 202-720-5046.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS' functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the method and

assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to both FSIS, at the addresses provided above, and the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, DC 20253.

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: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS will also announce and provide a link to this **Federal Register** publication 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 e-mail subscription service that provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at:

<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>. The available information ranges 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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online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Justin Ransom,
Administrator.

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