



DEC 15 2010

TO: Agency Regulatory Contacts

FROM: Michael Poe, Chief   
Legislative and Regulatory Staff

SUBJECT: Regulatory Review Cycle for 2011

As you know, Executive Order 12866 directs all Federal agencies to periodically provide the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) a listing of its planned regulatory actions, indicating those which the agency has determined to be significant as defined by the Executive Order. The list allows OIRA greater selectivity in reviewing regulations so that focus can be put on the more important (significant and economically significant) regulatory actions. The process also allows for the expeditious publication of those actions designated not significant because those actions do not require further OIRA review.

This memo provides the regulatory review cycles for 2011. We ask that you submit your planned rulemakings using the workplan format as follows: **January 24 (cycle 148); March 7; April 18; May 31; July 11; August 22; October 3; November 14; and December 27.**

We continue to encourage you to ensure that your cycle submissions: include all regulatory actions that need to be published within a 60-90 day timeframe; provide sufficient information, including a cost statement and your agency's recommended designation, so that your policy officials and OIRA can make an informed decision regarding the rulemaking classification; and that all required analyses for each rulemaking are identified in the required analysis section of the workplan. In addition, we remind you that a workplan must be submitted at each stage of a planned regulatory action.

We also want to remind agencies that workplans must be submitted in one package by the above dates in order to be processed for that cycle. OBPA will process workplans submitted out of cycle on a case-by-case basis.

Your continued effort to ensure that the rulemaking process at USDA is efficient and effective is appreciated.