

USDA meeting to hash out deal on GMO labeling may take place January 21

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The 10 food, ag, biotech and pro-labeling group representatives will be back at it with Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack [soon]. . . to hash out what will hopefully be final details of a deal on GMO labeling. A source familiar with the talks tells [Morning Agriculture] that the meeting will take place on Thursday, [January 21]. Word is that industry is putting forth a plan for a mandatory system of disclosure using QR codes — likely based on the food industry's SmartLabel program — though the question of whether companies can voluntarily label GMOs on packages has become a sticking point.

It's been a week now since the sides met at the USDA [in mid-January], and the department and those who were involved are still mum on even the existence of the session. However, it does appear that some information has been provided to members of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Chairman Pat Roberts said he knew the sides were meeting again this [the third week of January], while Sen. John Hoeven, who is working on a GMO labeling bill, said he has heard from the agency about the first session, "but nothing I can be talking about publicly."

**Read full, original post:** [Politico Morning Agriculture: GMO TALKS, ROUND TWO](#)