

to the National Appeals Division in accordance with 7 CFR 4280.105.

(3) *Conflict of interest.* The provisions of 7 CFR 4280.106 apply to this Notice.

(4) *USDA Departmental Regulations and other laws that contains other compliance requirements.* The provisions of 7 CFR 4280.107 and 7 CFR 4280.108 apply to this Notice.

#### VII. Agency Contacts

For assistance on this program, please contact a USDA Rural Development Energy Coordinator, as provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this Notice.

#### VIII. Nondiscrimination Statement

USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to: USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Dated: February 27, 2013.

**Dallas Tonsager,**

*Under Secretary, Rural Development.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### U.S. Census Bureau

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; 2013 Company Organization Survey

**AGENCY:** U.S. Census Bureau,  
Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and

respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before May 28, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [jjessup@doc.gov](mailto:jjessup@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Joy P. Pierson, Economic Planning and Coordination Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 8K319, Washington, DC 20233-6100 (or by email at [Joy.P.Pierson@census.gov](mailto:Joy.P.Pierson@census.gov))

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Abstract**

The Census Bureau conducts the annual Company Organization Survey (COS) to update and maintain a central, multipurpose Business Register (BR) database. In particular, the COS supplies critical information on the composition, organizational structure, and operating characteristics of multi-location companies.

The BR serves two fundamental purposes:

First and most important, it provides sampling populations and enumeration lists for the Census Bureau's economic surveys and censuses, and it serves as an integral part of the statistical foundation underlying those programs. Essential for this purpose is the BR's ability to identify all known United States business establishments and their parent companies. Further, the BR must accurately record basic business attributes needed to control sampling and enumeration. These attributes include industrial and geographic classifications, and name and address information.

Second, it provides establishment data that serve as the basis for the annual County Business Patterns (CBP) statistical series. The CBP publications present data on number of establishments, first quarter payroll, annual payroll, and mid-March employment summarized by industry and employment size class for the United States, the District of Columbia, island areas, counties, and country-

equivalents. No other annual or more frequent series of industry statistics provides comparable detail, particularly for small geographic areas.

##### **II. Method of Collection**

The Census Bureau will conduct the 2013 COS in a similar manner as the 2011 COS. (In 2012 the COS was conducted in conjunction with the 2012 Economic Census to minimize response burden). The 2013 COS will request company-level information from a selection of multi-establishment enterprises, which comprise roughly 42,000 parent companies and more than 1.4 million establishments. Additionally, the panel will include approximately 5,000 large single-location companies that may have added locations during the year. The primary collection medium for the COS is a paper questionnaire; however, many enterprises will submit automated/electronic COS reports. Electronic reporting will be available to all 2013 COS respondents. Companies will receive and return responses by secure Internet transmission. Companies that cannot use the Internet will receive a CD-ROM containing their electronic data. All respondents will be allowed to mail the data via diskette or CD-ROM or submit their responses via the Internet. COS content is identical for all of the reporting modes.

The instrument will include inquiries on ownership or control by domestic or foreign parent, ownership of foreign affiliates, and leased employment. Further, the instrument will list an inventory of establishments belonging to the company and its subsidiaries, and request updates to these inventories, including additions, deletions, and changes to information on EIN, name and address, and industrial classification, end-of-year operating status, mid-March employment, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll.

Additionally, the Census Bureau will ask certain questions in the 2013 COS in order to enhance content. We will include questions on ownership or control by domestic or foreign parents, ownership of foreign affiliates, research and development, leased employment, and manufacturing activities related to the Enterprise Statistics Program.

##### **III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 0607-0444.

*Form Number:* NC-99001 (for multi-establishment enterprises) and NC-99007 (for single-location companies).

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Business and not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 47,000 enterprises.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 1.83 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 143,608.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* \$4,339,834.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13 U.S.C. Section 182, 195, 224, and 225.

#### IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 26, 2013.

**Glenna Mickelson,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2013-07330 Filed 3-28-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-07-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### Request for Nominations of Members to Serve on the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of Commerce is requesting nominations of individuals to the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee. The Secretary will consider nominations received in response to this notice, as well as from other sources. The **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice provides committee and membership criteria.

**DATES:** Please submit nominations by April 29, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit nominations to B.K. Atrostic, Designated Federal Official for Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 2K267, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233. Nominations also may be submitted by fax at 301-763-9993, or by email to [barbara.kathryn.atrostic@census.gov](mailto:barbara.kathryn.atrostic@census.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** B.K. Atrostic, Designated Federal Official for Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 2K267, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233, e-mail [barbara.kathryn.atrostic@census.gov](mailto:barbara.kathryn.atrostic@census.gov), or telephone (301) 763-6442.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee was established in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (as amended, Title 5, United States Code, Appendix 2). The following provides information about the committee, membership, and the nomination process.

#### Objectives and Duties

1. The Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee (the "Committee") is administratively housed at the Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA), U.S. Department of Commerce. The Committee advises Directors of ESA's two statistical agencies, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the U.S. Census Bureau (Census), and the Commissioner of the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) ("the agencies") on statistical methodology and other technical matters related to the collection, tabulation, and analysis of federal economic statistics.

2. The Committee functions solely as an advisory committee to the senior officials of BEA, Census and BLS in consultation with the Committee chairperson.

3. Important aspects of the Committee's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

a. Recommending research to address important technical problems arising in federal economic statistics.

b. Identifying areas in which better coordination of the agencies' activities would be beneficial.

c. Establishing relationships with professional associations with an interest in federal economic statistics.

d. Coordinating, in its identification of agenda items, with other existing academic advisory committees chartered to provide agency-specific advice, for the purpose of avoiding duplication of effort.

4. The Committee reports to the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs

who, as head of ESA, coordinates and collaborates with the agencies.

#### Membership

1. The Committee consists of approximately fourteen members who serve at the pleasure of the Secretary of Commerce.

2. Members are nominated by the Department of Commerce, in consultation with the agencies, under the coordination of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and appointed by the Secretary.

3. Committee members are economists, statisticians, survey methodologists, and behavioral scientists, and are chosen to achieve a balanced membership across those disciplines.

4. Members shall be prominent experts in their fields, and recognized for their scientific and professional achievements and objectivity.

a. Members serve as Special Government Employees (SGEs) and are subject to ethics rules applicable to SGEs.

b. Members serve three-year terms. Members may be reappointed to any number of additional three-year terms.

c. Should a committee member be unable to complete a three-year term, a new member may be selected to complete that term for the duration of the time remaining or begin a new term of three years.

d. The agencies, by consensus agreement, shall appoint the chairperson annually from the committee membership. Chairpersons shall be permitted to succeed themselves.

#### Miscellaneous

1. Members of the Committee will not be compensated for their services, but will be reimbursed for travel expenses upon request.

2. The Committee meets approximately twice a year, budget permitting. Special meetings may be called when appropriate.

#### Nomination Information

1. Nominations are requested as described above.

2. Nominees must be economists, statisticians, survey methodologists, and behavioral scientists and will be chosen to achieve a balanced membership across those disciplines. Nominees must be prominent experts in their fields, and recognized for their scientific and professional achievements and objectivity. Such knowledge and expertise are needed to advise the agencies on statistical methodology and other technical matters related to the