



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of the Chief Information Officer
Washington, D.C. 20230

May 5, 2010

Mr. Alex Hunt
Chief, Information Policy Branch
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Hunt:

The Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) requests an emergency review of a new information collection entitled, "Survey of Minority-owned Business Participation in Global Commerce."

On March 11, 2010, President Obama signed an Executive Order 13534, National Export Initiative, which calls for 'doubling exports over the next 5 years by working to remove trade barriers abroad, by helping firms – especially small businesses – overcome the hurdles to entering new export markets, by assisting with financing, and in general by pursuing a Government-wide approach to export advocacy abroad.'

In support of the President's initiative, MBDA proposes administering a survey to establish benchmarks to measure minority business growth in export sales, identify barriers to international trade, and provide recommendations on how to increase minority business participation in global commerce. The results of the survey will be used to develop a research study entitled, "Minority Business Contributions to the U.S. Economy through Global Commerce." MBDA anticipates releasing the research study during the National Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week Conference, scheduled for August 25-27, 2010.

MBDA is requesting approval by May 12, 2010. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Diana H. Hynek
Department of Commerce
Information Collections Officer