

December 15, 2008

Memorandum for: Reviewer of 1220-0011

CC: Carol Rowan
Kim Hill

FROM KENNETH W. ROBERTSON, Chief
Division of Current Employment Statistics
Bureau of Labor Statistics

Subject: Non-substantive Change Request for the Current Employment
Statistics Program

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is proposing to eliminate the collection of Gross Monthly Earnings data on its current collection instruments. The data series is experimental in nature and after examining the data for several years, the CES program has determined that the quality of the data is not sufficient to meet the needs of the BLS or its customers. The CES program has performed some outreach with survey respondents in an attempt to better understand the nature of the problems concerning the data, but these attempts have not led BLS to believe that it can improve upon the quality of these data as part of the CES program.

No other changes to the forms are proposed at this time; however, CES is currently in the process of redesigning the forms and will be submitting the new forms as part of a full Paperwork Reduction Act clearance package in the next few months.