

**JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DATA COLLECTION PROGRAM FOR
SOUTHEAST ALASKA
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0614**

We are requesting a change in the options that can be chosen by survey respondents in the “key respondent” group when they respond to our interview questions. In the approved ICR’s supporting statement, we stated we would conduct interviews of respondents. Our original plan was to provide respondents with a worksheet in preparation for an upcoming telephone or in-person interview.

We have since reconsidered how to most efficiently gather data from the respondents. Experience tells us that in some cases respondents will provide more detailed or follow-up information after the interview. We concluded that it would be more efficient to give respondents, after the interview is completed, the options of amplifying the information they provided in the interview by (1) returning a completed or partially completed worksheet to us by mail, or (2) accessing an internet link to fill out a portion of a worksheet stored on a secure internet website. They may also choose not to add any information.

We believe that these options will help to make it more convenient for some respondents to provide the information, thereby increasing the response rate. These response options are not expected to increase respondents’ burden hours, as worksheet completion (pre-interview) was already included in the estimated interview time.