

October 18, 2012

Mr. Dwight Wolkow
International Portfolio Investment Data Systems
Department of the Treasury
Room 5422 MT
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20220

RE: *Federal Register* notice of September 11, 2012, for the Annual Report of U.S. Ownership of Foreign Securities, including Selected Money Market Instruments (OMB Number: 1505-0146)

Dear Mr. Wolkow:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data on Forms SHC and SHCA. The data collected on these forms are crucial to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

Annual and benchmark reports on U.S. residents' holdings of foreign securities are used directly in compiling estimates for BEA's International Investment Position (IIP). Specifically, these reports contribute to estimates on several lines of IIP Table 1 and Table 2, including lines 19-21 (foreign bonds and foreign stocks). These reports also serve as a check on quarterly estimates and as a guideline to annual revisions of those estimates in BEA's International Transactions Accounts (ITAs). In particular, these reports impact estimates on several lines of ITA Table 1, including line 52 (foreign securities) and line 15 (other private receipts), as well as estimates in Section A of ITA Table 8.

In addition, the reports provide analytical background information regarding BEA's estimates for commercial paper, which is included in ITA Table 1 line 24 (U.S. bank claims) and estimates in ITA Table 9. The attachment below shows the data used by BEA and how they are used.

Please keep BEA informed about any modifications to these forms. We are particularly interested in any modifications proposed during the forms' approval process that would substantially affect our use of these data. For additional information, contact Ruth Bramblett, Source Data Coordinator, on 202-606-9653 or by e-mail at Ruth.Bramblett@bea.gov. Should you need assistance in justifying these forms to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. Fixler
Chief Statistician

Attachment

SHC/SHCA Data Used by BEA

Source Data Used by BEA:	BEA Data Used for:
SHC/SHCA Tables 1, 2, 4, 27 (derived from Schedules 1, 2,3)	ITA Table 1, Line 52 ITA Table 8, Lines A1-A15 IIP Tables 1 and 2, Line 21
SHC/SHCA Tables 5, 6, 8,9, 27 (derived from Schedules 1, 2,3)	ITA Table 1, Line 52 ITA Table 8, Lines A16-A29 IIP Tables 1 and 2, Line 20
SHC/SHCA Tables 3, 23, 28	ITA Table 1, Line 15 TA Table 4, Line 7
SHC/SHCA Tables 7, 24, 29	ITA Table 1, Line 15 ITA Table 4, Line 8
SHC/SHCA Tables 11, 12	Analytical checks on: ITA Table 1, Line 54 ITA Table 9, Line 7