

June 23, 2014

Ms. Marcela Rourk
U.S. Department of Energy
U.S. Energy Information Administration
Mail Stop EI-25
Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue SW.
Washington, DC 20585

RE: *Federal Register* notice of May 8, 2014, for the Petroleum Marketing Program (OMB Number: 1905-0174)

Dear Ms. Rourk:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) on the Petroleum Marketing Program survey forms. The data collected on these forms are crucial to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

BEA uses data from these forms to prepare the national income and product accounts and the balance of payments accounts for international transactions. The proposed changes will not affect BEA's use of the data. A list of forms and items used is attached.

Please keep BEA informed concerning 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, please contact Tiffany Burrell, Source Data Coordinator, on 202-606-9653 or by e-mail at Tiffany.Burrell@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

Attachment

BEA Use of EIA Petroleum Marketing Survey Forms

| Form | Items Used |
|-----------------|--|
| EIA-14 | Data from this form on composite (domestic and imported) acquisition cost per barrel of crude oil by refiners are used on a monthly basis to calculate a measure of price change for purchases of crude oil (information on crude oil prices from the Producer Price Index covers only domestically produced oil). This price index is used to deflate crude oil held in inventory by refiners for the change in private inventory component of gross domestic product (GDP). These data are also used for research and analyses (not current production) by BEA's Balance of Payments Division Research Branch. |
| EIA-782C | Data from this form on volumes of first sale of motor gasoline by grade are used to prepare estimates of the gasoline and oil component of personal consumption expenditures, PCE (a major component of GDP). The gallon sales by grade are used in constructing a weighted price per gallon which is then used to prepare estimates of real gasoline and oil expenditures. |
| EIA 856 | Data from this form are used by the Balance of Payments for the total crude oil import prices and quantities for BEA's goods projections for the advance estimate of GDP. The Bureau of Labor Statistics uses the EIA-856 to compute their crude oil price index which is also used by BEA's Balance of Payments. |