

# Request for Approval under the “Generic Clearance for Questionnaire Testing and Research” (OMB Control Number: 1905-0186)

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TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION: **Cognitive Research for the Densified Biomass Fuel Report: Form EIA-63C**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this survey is to collect feedback from the respondents to Form EIA-63C “Densified Biomass Fuel Report,” to verify the current burden estimates for collecting the requested information shown on the form and to estimate any changes in reporting burden. Currently the burden for this form is 1.5 hours. The EIA-63C information collection is sponsored and collected by the Energy Information Administration’s Office of Electricity, Renewables & Uranium Statistics (EIA). The Form collects information on densified biomass fuel production, sales, and inventory levels. The data collected is used to estimate densified biomass fuel consumption in the United States, as well as production, sales, and inventory at state, regional, and national levels.

**DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS:** Current EIA respondents that report on Form EIA-63C.

**TYPE OF COLLECTION:** (Check one)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field Testing          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cognitive Interviews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usability Testing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Focus Groups                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot Surveys          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Respondent Debriefings |  |

**CERTIFICATION:**

I certify the following to be true regarding the proposed collection of information:

1. It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions.
2. It avoids unnecessary duplication.
3. It reduces burden on small entities.
4. It uses plain, coherent, and unambiguous language that is understandable to respondents.
5. Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices.
6. It indicates the retention periods for recordkeeping requirements.
7. It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8 (b)(3) about:
  - i. Why the information is being collected;
  - ii. Use of information;
  - iii. Burden estimate;
  - iv. Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, or mandatory);
  - v. Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
  - vi. Need to display currently valid OMB control number
8. It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected.
9. It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology (if applicable).
10. It makes appropriate use of information technology.

Name: Thomas Leckey, Assistant Administrator for Energy Statistics,  
U.S. Energy Information Administration

To assist review, please provide answers to the following questions:

**Personally Identifiable Information:**

1. Is personally identifiable information (PII) collected?  Yes  No
2. If Yes, will any information that is collected be included in records that are subject to the Privacy Act of 1974?  Yes  No
3. If Yes, has an up-to-date System of Records Notice (SORN) been published?  Yes  No

**Gifts or Payments:**

Is an incentive (e.g., money or reimbursement of expenses, token of appreciation) provided to participants?  Y  No

**BURDEN HOURS**

Category of Respondent	No. of Respondents	Participation Time (minutes)	Burden
	12	15	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>3</b>

**ESTIMATE OF RESPONDENT BURDEN HOURS AND COST** – The burden to respondents is 15 minutes and the cost to the respondents is estimated to be  $(\$73.66 * 3) = \$220.90$ .

**FEDERAL COST:** The estimated annual cost to the Federal government is: \$220.90.

**If you are conducting a focus group, survey, or plan to employ statistical methods, please provide answers to the following questions:**

**The selection of your targeted respondents**

1. Do you have a customer list or something similar that defines the universe of potential respondents and do you have a sampling plan for selecting from this universe?  
 Yes  No

If the answer is yes, please provide a description of both below (or attach the sampling plan)? If the answer is no, please provide a description of how you plan to identify your potential group of respondents and how you will select them?

There are approximately 90 respondents currently reporting on Form EIA-63C. EIA will recruit 12 respondents to participate in cognitive research by contacting active companies listed in the current frame file for Form EIA-63C. We will seek up to 4 interviews from large, medium, and small sized firms to accurately assess burden across all respondents.

**Administration of the Instrument**

1. How will you collect the information? (Check all that apply)
  - Web-based or other forms of Social Media
  - Telephone
  - In-person
  - Mail
  - Other, Explain
2. Will interviewers or facilitators be used?  Yes  No

**Please make sure that all instruments, instructions, and scripts are submitted with the request.**

Instructions for completing Request for Approval under the  
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**TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION:** Provide the name of the collection that is the subject of the request. (e.g. Comment card for soliciting feedback on xxxx)

**PURPOSE:** Provide a brief description of the purpose of this collection and how it will be used. If this is part of a larger study or effort, please include this in your explanation.

**DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS:** Provide a brief description of the targeted group or groups for this collection of information. These groups must have experience with the program.

**TYPE OF COLLECTION:** Check one box. If you are requesting approval of other instruments under the generic, you must complete a form for each instrument.

**CERTIFICATION:** Please read the certification carefully. If you incorrectly certify, the collection will be returned as improperly submitted or it will be disapproved.

**Personally Identifiable Information:** Provide answers to the questions. Note: Agencies should only collect PII to the extent necessary, and they should only retain PII for the period of time that is necessary to achieve a specific objective.

**Gifts or Payments:** If you answer yes to the question, please describe the incentive and provide a justification for the amount.

**BURDEN HOURS:**

**Category of Respondents:** Identify who you expect the respondents to be in terms of the following categories: (1) Individuals or Households; (2) Private Sector; (3) State, local, or tribal governments; or (4) Federal Government. Only one type of respondent can be selected per row.

**No. of Respondents:** Provide an estimate of the Number of respondents.

**Participation Time:** Provide an estimate of the amount of time required for a respondent to participate (e.g. fill out a survey or participate in a focus group)

**Burden:** Provide the Annual burden hours: Multiply the Number of responses and the participation time and divide by 60.

**FEDERAL COST:** Provide an estimate of the annual cost to the Federal government.

**If you are conducting a focus group, survey, or plan to employ statistical methods, please provide answers to the following questions:**

**The selection of your targeted respondents.** Please provide a description of how you plan to identify your potential group of respondents and how you will select them. If the answer is yes, to the first question, you may provide the sampling plan in an attachment.

**Administration of the Instrument:** Identify how the information will be collected. More than one box may be checked. Indicate whether there will be interviewers (e.g. for surveys) or facilitators (e.g., for focus groups) used.

**Submit all instruments, instructions, and scripts are submitted with the request.**