

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

TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION: **Uranium Survey Cognitive Research**

PURPOSE: The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) seeks to conduct a cognitive research project with respondents that report on Form EIA-851 *Domestic Uranium Production Report* (annually and/or quarterly) to estimate the amount of time and effort it takes respondents to complete and file Form EIA-851 (annually and quarterly). EIA also seeks to identify any concerns respondents have from EIA changing its confidentiality pledge from CIPSEA to either using exemptions recognized under the FOIA statute, or make the information public and not protect the identifiability of the information reported. Currently, most of the data reported on Form EIA-851 are suppressed except for estimates at the national level (e.g. See link <https://www.eia.gov/uranium/production/annual/uprodship.php>). The data over the past five years shows that US domestic uranium production has significantly declined. During the same time period foreign imports increased and currently constitute over 90% of U.S uranium consumption. EIA needs to change its confidentiality pledge in order to publish more uranium data at a lower level of geography. Therefore, EIA would like to gain an understanding of respondents’ concerns and expectations regarding a change in the data confidentiality pledge.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Respondents to Form EIA-851A constitute the frame file for selecting respondents to report quarterly on Form EIA-851Q. EIA will interview up to 20 active respondents from the contact frame file on Annual Form EIA-851. The interviews are grouped in two parts. First round will include 15 respondents. If additional interviews are needed a second round of five interview is planned.

TYPE OF COLLECTION: (Check one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field Testing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cognitive Telephone 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 in minutes	Burden in hours
Form EIA-851A Respondents	15	30 mins	7.5
Second round if needed	5	30 mins	2.5
Totals	20	30 mins	10

ESTIMATE OF RESPONDENT BURDEN HOURS AND COST – The burden to respondents is 10hours and the cost to the respondents is estimated to be (\$80.14* 20) = \$1,602.08.

FEDERAL COST: The estimated annual cost to the Federal government is: \$480.84

Drafting the Protocol	3 hours
Analyzing Results	3 hours

6 hours * \$80.14 (FTE hourly pay rate) = \$392.60

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?

This design includes contacting active respondents that report on Form EIA-851A. EIA will send invitations to active respondents reporting on Form EIA-851A and request their participation in a 30-minute telephone interview. Respondents that report on both Forms EIA-851A and 851Q will be identified and they will receive priority in scheduling interviews. EIA will strive to obtain at least 50% of the interviews from respondents that file both Form EIA-851A and EIA-851Q. Participation in this research is voluntary. A second round of five cognitive interviews is planned in the event the information collected from the 15 interviews is insufficient for reaching the saturation point for the research goals.

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
“Generic Clearance for Questionnaire Testing and Research”
(OMB Control Number: 1905-0186)

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.