

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration



5/26/2021

Chandana Achanta
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget

RE: Request for Emergency Processing of Information Collection Request

Dear Ms. Achanta:

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) requests emergency processing of a request for approval of a collection of information concerning the State Data Transfer (SDT) program. NHTSA seeks emergency clearance for this information collection request for the maximum permissible period under 5 CFR 1320.13(f).

The State Data Transfer (SDT) program is a voluntary collection of motor vehicle crash data. Participating States transfer information about motor vehicle crashes to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). NHTSA uses this information to develop a census of the participating States' crashes that the National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA) will use to identify existing and emerging highway safety trends and assess the effectiveness of motor vehicle safety standards and new technologies on vehicle and highway safety programs.

This data are critical to several high priority projects for this administration. The SDT data will be used to determine mass/safety impacts for the Coporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) scheduled for release this spring/summer. E.O. 13990 requires NHTSA to "as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, [...] consider publishing for notice and comment a proposed rule suspending, revising, or rescinding" the SAFE II Rule "by July 2021." Following the normal clearance procedures will not allow NHTSA to receive approval before the deadline for publication of the NPRM.

The Partnership for Analytics Research in Traffic Safety (PARTS) also needs this data to determine the effectiveness of automated driver assistance systems (ADAS) with Departmental leadership expecting initial analyses later this year. These results will be used in the cost and benefit analysis needed for rulemaking on these technologies as required by E.O. 12863.

Given the priorities identified above, this information is needed before NHTSA can complete the normal clearance procedures under 5 CFR Part 1320. NHTSA requests that OMB approve or disapprove the collection of information within 3 days. Any delays in this program will potentially delay these analytical and rulemaking actions that could prevent fatalities and injuries in motor vehicle crashes.

NHTSA published a notice in the Federal Register with a 60-day public comment period to announce the SDT information collection on May 31, 2018 (83 FR 25112). Five comments were received and have been addressed in a new 60-day notice which will be published shortly.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Walter Culbreath at 202.366.1566 (walter.culbreath@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

Chou-Lin Chen Associate Administrator, National Center for Statistics and Analysis National Highway Traffic Safety Administration