

## **SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR NEW AND REVISED INFORMATION COLLECTIONS**

**OMB CONTROL NUMBER 3038-0017**

Special calls for information associated with market investigations from futures commission merchants (“FCMs”), clearing members, members of reporting markets, introducing brokers (“IBs”), foreign brokers, domestic and foreign traders, and reporting markets.

### **Justification**

- 1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.**

Sections 8(a)(1) and (2) of the Commodity Exchange Act (Act), 7 U.S.C. 12(a)(1)-(2), provide that, for the efficient execution of the provisions of the Act and in order to inform Congress, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“Commission”) may make investigations concerning markets and publish the results of any such investigation including any general statistical information gathered as it deems of interest to the public. In certain instances, in response to abrupt and substantial changes in market prices, congressional inquiry, or other reasons, the Commission may conduct full market investigations requiring that all persons holding futures or options positions held or introduced on the date in question in a specific market be identified. The Commission issues its special calls for information pursuant to part 21 of the Commission’s Regulations, 17 CFR §§ 21.00–21.06.

- 2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the data would be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.**

The information received from the current collection is used primarily by Market and Surveillance Analysts in order to fulfill their market briefing and surveillance mandates. The data can also provide a basis for reports to Congress and can be used by Commission economists and other staff for research projects.

- 3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

Part 21 of the Commission’s regulations does not require machine-readable information adhering to a specific record layout. This matches current industry and Commission practice for special calls of data. Generally, most, if not all, firms are able to provide the data in electronic format. However, accommodation can be made to accept manual submissions.

4. **Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in item 2 above.**

No other organization collects these data within the same time, content and format parameters as prescribed in this collection. The Commission obtains some similar information through its large trader reporting system (“LTRS”), and while this data provides valuable insights regarding markets, it only represents on average about 90% of end of day positions in a particular contract market. Moreover, identification information required on the special call is more detailed than that routinely collected through the LTRS. Specifically, timing and other trader occupation-related information as well as small (*i.e.*, nonreportable) positions must be included on the special call. As a result, information collected through various daily reporting systems is not sufficient for market survey purposes. Accordingly, the collection information is not duplicated by, and may not be replicated through, other sources.

5. **If the collection of information involves small business or other small entities (Item 5 of OMB Form 83-I), describe the methods used to minimize burden.**

The information collection does not involve small businesses or other small entities.

6. **Describe the consequence to the Federal Program or policy activities if the collection were conducted less frequently as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

Without the information obtained through this collection, the Commission would not be able to carry out its market briefing and oversight responsibilities for markets. The collection requirements are essential to the Commission’s mission as mandated by the Commodity Exchange Act. Commodity markets require data transparency and surveillance on a daily basis to not only ensure well-functioning markets; but also to prevent and deter situations such as attempted manipulations or other significant market events, which tend to develop rapidly. Since special calls are conducted only on an as-needed basis, as determined by the Commission, adequate surveillance and market research would be essentially impossible to perform if special calls were conducted on a less frequent basis.

7. **Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner:**

- **Requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly.**

No such circumstances.

- **Requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it.**

No such circumstances.

- **Requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document.**

Respondents are required to submit only a single copy to the Commission.

- **Requiring respondents to retain records other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records, for more than three years.**

Commission regulation 1.31 (17 CFR § 1.31) expressly requires that:

All books and records required to be kept by the CEA or by Commission regulations shall be kept for a period of five years from the date thereof and shall be readily accessible during the first two years of the five-year period for records exclusively created and maintained on paper, and for all five years of the recordkeeping period for electronic records. All such books and records shall be open to inspection by any representative of the Commission or the United States Department of Justice.

- **In connection with a statistical survey that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study.**

The reporting rules do not require or involve any statistical surveys.

- **Requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB.**

The reporting rules do not require or involve any statistical data classification.

- **That includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use.**

The reporting rules do not directly involve any pledge of confidentiality regarding the collection of data (please see answer to question 10).

- **Requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secrets, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

The Commission has promulgated regulations to protect the confidentiality of any information collected from respondents. Those regulations are set forth in 17 CFR part

145. The Commission will protect sensitive information according to the Freedom of Information Act and the Commission's regulations. In addition, the Commission fully complies with section 8(a)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, which strictly prohibits the Commission, unless specifically authorized by the Commodity Exchange Act, from making public "data and information that would separately disclose the business transactions or market positions of any person and trade secrets or names of customers."

8. **If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

**Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping disclosure, or reporting format (if any, and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported).**

Contact with derivatives markets and market participants is maintained on an ongoing basis to resolve reporting problems and address concerns. In addition, the Commission sought comment from the public concerning the renewal of this collection of information. See 90 FR 29534, July 3, 2025. No relevant comments were received.

**Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years - even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.**

No such circumstances are anticipated.

9. **Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

The Commission has neither considered nor made any payment or gift to a respondent.

10. **Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulations, or agency policy.**

The Commission does not provide respondents with an assurance of confidentiality beyond that provided by applicable law. The Commission fully complies with section 8(a)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, which strictly prohibits the Commission, unless specifically authorized by the Commodity Exchange Act, from making public "data and information that would separately disclose the business transactions or market positions of any person and trade secrets or names of customers." In addition, the Commission has procedures to protect the confidentiality of an applicant's or registrant's data. These are

set forth in the Commission's regulations at parts 145 and 147 of title 17 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

- 11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

The data collection requirements relating to market data contain no sensitive questions as that term is used in item 11.

- 12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. The Statement should:**

- **Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. Unless directed to do so, agencies should not conduct special surveys to obtain information on which to base hour burden estimates. Consultation with a sample (fewer than ten) of potential respondents is desirable. If the hour burden on respondents is expected to vary widely because of differences in activity, size or complexity, show the range of estimated hour burden, and explain the reasons for the variance. Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices.**
- **If the request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens in Item 13 of OMB Form 83-I.**
- **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hours burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included in Item 13.**

*See Attachment A.*

Approximately 100 FCMs, clearing members, members of reporting markets, IBs, foreign brokers, domestic and foreign traders, and reporting markets will receive an initial abbreviated call for information. The majority of potential respondents either own their own computing infrastructure or use independent accounting services with automated data processing capabilities. We estimate that, on average, a maximum of 30 minutes would be necessary to respond to the initial call. Although burden hours for the follow-up call will depend on the sampling rate, typical requests for follow-up information are estimated at 250 accounts. This represents 10 percent of an expected maximum number of 2,500 accounts for any one special call. Providing follow-up

information should take an average of 30 minutes per account. Using the above estimates, on average, we would expect a reporting burden of no more than 1.75 hours per respondent for a total special call burden of 175 hours estimated annually. This may range from zero for respondents who do not carry accounts in commodities specified in the call to as many as 25 hours for FCMs with a large number of customer accounts.

In arriving at a wage rate for the hourly costs imposed, Commission staff used the May 2024 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates United States, published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (“BLS”).<sup>1</sup> For the cost calculations, as noted above, Commission staff used a composite (blended) wage rate by averaging the hourly wages of a Compliance Officer and a Software Developer to arrive at the hourly wage rate of \$55.18. Commission staff chose this methodology to account for the variance in skill sets that may be used to accomplish the collection of information. It is important to note that although the hourly wage referenced above does take production bonuses into account, it does not include other types of bonuses or consider certain variables such as employee benefits which can increase the cost of labor. The total information collection annual burden is approximately 175 hours. The total annualized cost equates to \$9,657 (2024).

- 13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in Items 12 and 14).**
- **The cost estimate should be split into two components; (a) a total capital and start-up cost component (annualized over its expected useful life) and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component. The estimates should take into account costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major costs factors including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the time period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software, monitoring, sampling, drilling and testing equipment, and record storage facilities.**
  - **If cost estimates are expected to vary widely, agencies should present ranges of cost burdens and explain the reasons for the variance. The cost of purchasing or contracting out information collection services should be a part of this cost burden estimate, agencies may consult with a sample of respondents (fewer than ten), utilize the 60-day pre-OMB submission public comment process and use existing economic or regulatory impact analysis associated with the rulemaking containing the information collection, as appropriate.**

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<sup>1</sup> Available at <https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/industry/000000>. CFTC staff arrived at this estimate by averaging the mean hourly wage rate for Compliance Officers (\$40.86) and Software Developers (\$69.50).

- **Generally, estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services, or portions thereof, made: (1) prior to October 1, 1995, (2) to achieve regulatory compliance with requirements not associated with the information collection, (3) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the government or (4) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.**

There is no applicable capital, start up, maintenance, or purchase of service cost component. Additionally, it is important to note that the information requested under the special call authority consists of basic account records that any market member or broker would create as a matter of sound business practices in the normal course of business operations and in response to requirements imposed by non-governmental financial self-regulatory bodies. Because these records are generated independently of any Commission requirements, we estimate that the reporting rules impose no additional material costs related to recordkeeping and retention on reporting markets.

- 14. Provide estimates of the annualized costs to the Federal Government. Also provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information. Agencies may also aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 in a single table.**

The Commission estimates the equivalent mix of approximately 15 Economist, Market and Surveillance Staff will expend approximately 100 hours over a total of 250 trading days to collect and analyze the information submitted. At an average salary rate of \$109 per hour, the Commission estimates that the cost to the government will be \$10,900 annually per employee, with a total annual cost to the government of \$163,500.<sup>2</sup>

- 15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB Form 83-I.**

The total annual number of responses is estimated at 100 which is unchanged from 2022. This unchanged number in annual responses can be attributed to improved methods and a considered approach surrounding the special call process, where the CFTC prudently exercises this option based on particular, carefully-weighted circumstances to avoid placing undue burdens on market participants. Accordingly, the total estimated burden hours associated with the collection remains unchanged at 175 hours for this renewal period. The estimated annual labor costs have increased slightly from \$8,225 (2022) to \$9,657 (2025) because of an increase in associated labor costs based on updated BLS data.

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<sup>2</sup> This figure is a composite of the salaries for economists (Grade 14) performing Market Surveillance functions in the Commission's Division of Market Oversight, Division of Clearing and Risk, and Division of Enforcement. In obtaining the composite, Commission staff used the CFTC 2025 Pay Table with adjusted locality pay for Washington, D.C. This figure does not include employee benefits.

- 16. For collection of information whose results are planned to be published for statistical use, outline plans for tabulation, statistical analysis, and publication. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.**

This question does not apply.

- 17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

This question does not apply.

- 18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19, “Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions,” of OMB Form 83-I.**

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.



## Attachment A

### Reporting Burden

#### OMB Control Number 3038-0017 – Market Surveys

1. Regulation(s)	2. Estimated Number of Respondents	3. Estimated Number of Reports by Each Respondent	4. Estimated Average Number of Burden Hours per Response	5. Annual Number of Burden Hours per Respondent (3×4)	6. Estimated Average Burden Hour Cost <sup>3</sup>	7. Total Average Hour Burden Cost Per Respondent (5×6)	8. Total Annual Responses (2×3)	9. Total Annual Number of Burden Hours (2×5)	10. Total Annual Burden Hour Cost of All Responses (2×7)
Part 21 (Regulations 21.00 – 21.06)	100	1	1.75	1.75	\$55.18	\$96.57	100	175	\$9,657

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<sup>3</sup> In arriving at a wage rate for the hourly costs associated with this collection, Commission staff used the May 2024 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The wage rate used is a composite (blended) wage rate by averaging the hourly wages of a Compliance Officer and a Software Developer to arrive at the hourly wage rate of \$55.18.