



# Supporting Statement for Electric Power Surveys

March 2026

## **Part B: Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods**

OMB No. 1905-0129

*Form EIA-860, Annual Electric Generator Report*

*Form EIA-860M, Monthly Update to the Annual Electric Generator Report*

*Form EIA-861, Annual Electric Power Industry Report*

*Form EIA-861S, Annual Electric Power Industry Report (Short Form)*

*Form EIA-861M, Monthly Electric Power Industry Report*

*Form EIA-923, Power Plant Operations Report*

*Form EIA-930, Balancing Authority Operations Report*

*Form EIA-930A, Balancing Authority Generator Inventory Report*



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## B.1. Respondent Universe

### Form EIA-860 Annual Electric Generator Report and Form EIA-860M Monthly Update to the Annual Electric Generator Report

Form EIA-860 collects data on the status of electric generating plants and associated equipment (such as environmental control systems) that are connected to the U.S. power transmission grid on an annual basis. The target population comprises existing and proposed electric power plants, including the following:

- A. All **existing plants** that have a total generator nameplate capacity (sum for generators at a single site) of 1 megawatt (MW) or greater; and where the generator(s), or the facility in which the generator(s) resides, is connected to the local or regional electric power grid and has the ability to draw power from the grid or deliver power to the grid; and
- B. All **proposed plants** that: 1) have an expected total generator(s) nameplate capacity of 1 MW or greater; 2) expect the generator(s), or the facility in which the generator(s) resides, to be connected to the local or regional electric power grid and expected to be able to draw power from the grid or deliver power to the grid; and 3) expect to commence commercial operation within 10 years in the case of coal, petroleum coke, nuclear, and hydroelectric (both conventional and pumped storage) units, or within 5 years for all other units.

Entities complete the form for all the plants they operate and/or plan to operate. Over 6,700 entities are required to file Form EIA-860. They currently operate and/or propose to operate in excess of 16,000 facilities, containing over 30,000 generators. The respondent universe to this survey forms the basis of the EIA electric power entity frame, from which samples for other surveys, such as the EIA-923, are drawn. Respondents are either self-identified or identified through industry publications and data services to which EIA subscribes.

Form EIA-860M monthly survey collects data from the Form EIA-860 population when a respondent has any of the following:

- A new generator scheduled to begin commercial operations within the next 12 months
- An existing generator scheduled for retirement within the next 12 months
- An existing generator undergoing modifications resulting in changes in capacity or other major modifications that are scheduled to be completed within 1 month

Respondents are the operators of the power plants where these new generators and existing generators are located. Based on recent experience, EIA estimates that Form EIA-860M collects data from approximately 508 respondent entities on average each month.

### Form EIA-861 Annual Electric Power Industry Report; Form EIA-861S Annual Electric Power Industry Report (Short Form); and Form EIA-861M Monthly Electric Power Industry Report

The approximately 3,427 entities that constitute the universe for these three mandatory surveys are all participants in the electric power industry who are involved in the generation, transmission, or distribution of electricity in the United States and its territories. Target population members include electric utilities, wholesale power marketers (registered with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC]), energy service providers, and electric power producers. The Form EIA-861 is to be completed by electric power industry entities such as, but not limited to, electric utilities, all Demand Side Management (DSM) Program Managers (entities responsible for conducting or administering a DSM program), wholesale power marketers, energy service providers, electric power producers, transmission owners, transmission operators, and Third Party Owners of solar PV. Responses are collected at the operating company level (not at the holding company level).

The annual Form EIA-861 collects a range of information related to electricity sales, revenue, number and type of customers, end use categories and demand response, and energy efficiency activities. Approximately 1,735 largest entities are selected to report on Form EIA-861 from the universe of approximately 3,427 entities based on a threshold of annual retail sales and other factors as explained below. The remaining smaller entities, about 1,692 of the potential respondents, account for only about 2 percent of total U.S. electricity sales and rarely engage in any other activities outside of basic electricity sales and distribution, and report on the EIA-861S.

#### *Form EIA-861S*

About 1,692 smaller entities out of the 3,427 entities in the respondent universe who do not report on Form EIA-861 reports on Form EIA-861S. These smaller entities account for only 2 percent of the total U.S. electricity sales and rarely engage in other activities outside of basic electricity sales and distribution. Respondents to Form EIA-861S report only a selected subset of data elements that are collected each year on Form EIA-861. All Form EIA-861S respondents are currently required to complete the long form in lieu of the short form once every eight years to account for changes in total revenues and sales over time. Consequently, these smaller entities are required to provide only a limited amount of sales, revenue, and customer count data in total and not broken down into end use category on Form EIA-861S and, for certain respondents, they also report data on time-based rate customers and advanced meter reading.

#### *Form EIA-861M*

Form EIA-861M collects monthly data on electricity sales and related end-use categories from a sample of entities for Form EIA-861. Mainly larger utilities selected by a cutoff sample report monthly sales and revenues data on Form EIA-861M. Data reported by these monthly utilities form the basis for EIA's model-based imputation and imputation methods. This enables EIA to publish monthly estimates of *total* electricity sales and revenues by state, region and nation.

New entities to the Form EIA-861M survey are also added to the annual Form EIA-861 survey and report on EIA-861.

#### Form EIA-923 *Power Plant Operations Report (Annual and Monthly)*

The target population for these mandatory annual and monthly surveys comprises all electric power plants in the United States that are connected to the electric power grid and have a generating capacity of 1 MW or greater. The survey frame for EIA-923 is established by Form EIA-860 and is identical to the set of operational and standby power plants within the frame of that survey.

There are about 14,721 power plants from which data are collected through Form EIA-923. The data collected includes electric power generation, fuel consumption, fossil fuel stocks, delivered fossil fuel cost, combustion byproducts, operational cooling water data, and operational air emissions control equipment data, such as nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), particulate matter emissions rates, and mercury, and acid gas removal efficiencies. Not all respondents answer all questions on the survey instrument; for example, questions on fuel consumption are inapplicable to hydroelectric, wind, and certain other types of power plants.

One survey form is completed for each power plant in the survey. If a single entity operates several power plants, it will complete a separate form for each plant, and each form is treated as a unique response for estimation and burden calculation purposes.

The current monthly sample uses a model-based cutoff design. Approximately 3,579 plants report monthly. These plants report monthly data on electricity generation, fuel consumption, and, in some cases, the cost and quality of certain fossil fuel deliveries.<sup>1</sup> At the end of the year, most of the monthly respondents (approximately 2,946 of the 3,579 monthly plants) also file a supplemental form that provides annual information on nonutility power sales, operation of environmental emissions control equipment,<sup>2</sup> combustion by-products, and cooling water data.

All power plants, including the plants in the monthly sample, file data annually. This includes data on generation and fuel consumption and, when applicable, data on fuel cost and quality, and environmental equipment performance.

Form EIA-930 *Hourly and Daily Balancing Authority Operations Report*; and Form EIA-930A *Annual Balancing Authority Generator Inventory Report*

Form EIA-930 is a census survey of hourly electric power operating data from Balancing Authorities in the contiguous United States. The data collected include:

- Hourly demand,
- Hourly next-day demand forecast,
- Hourly net generation,
- Hourly actual interchange with each interconnected Balancing Authority.

Form EIA-930A is a census survey of the generator inventory of all Balancing Authorities in the contiguous United States.

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<sup>1</sup> Plants report fuel cost and quality data only if they meet the following criteria: 200 MW or greater nameplate capacity for plants fueled by natural gas, petroleum coke, distillate fuel oil, and residual fuel oil, and/or have coal-fueled capacity of 50 MW or greater.

<sup>2</sup> Plants file data on environmental control system performance if the plant has a minimum of 10 MW of nameplate capacity using combustible fuels.

Balancing Authorities are generally either Regional Transmission Organizations or electric utilities that have transmission grid management responsibilities. There are currently 63 Balancing Authorities in the contiguous United States, and they constitute the census frame for this survey.

## B.2. Statistical Methods

### Sampling Methods

A power generating plant from the Form EIA-860 population is included in the sample for Form EIA-860M monthly when it satisfies any of the following:

- A new generator scheduled to begin commercial operations within the next 12 months
- An existing generator scheduled for retirement within the next 12 months
- An existing generator undergoing modifications resulting in changes in capacity or other major modifications that are scheduled to be completed within 1 month

EIA utilizes cutoff samples for four of its electric power surveys:

- Annual Form EIA-861, annual Form EIA-861S (Short Form), and monthly Form EIA-861M
- Form EIA-923 monthly survey of power plant operations.

These cutoff samples comprise all units with measures of size (sales, revenues from sales for EIA-861 surveys, and capacity and/or production for EIA-923 surveys) variables larger than predefined thresholds, taking into account the need for data on multiple variables of interest within survey instruments.

EIA uses a monthly version, Form EIA-861M, of the annual survey Form EIA-861 to collect the same data from the largest but a smaller set of industry participants. Form EIA-861M respondents are drawn from the EIA-861 frame using cutoff sampling. The cutoff sample consists of all utilities with sales and revenues of electricity larger than predefined thresholds which are specific to key estimates for various publication strata. The monthly respondents generally provide upwards of 80 percent of total electricity sales or revenues in each publication strata. Section B.2.3 below provides details about the sampling and estimation methods used for Form EIA-861M.

To further reduce respondent burden, entities that have annual sales of less than 200,000 MWhs report on Form EIA-861s, which is a shorter version of Form EIA-861. These entities account for approximately 2 percent of total retail sales.

EIA uses a monthly version, Form EIA-923M, of the annual survey Form EIA-923 to collect the data from a smaller set of industry participants. This approach allows EIA to better track the monthly changes overtime of power plant operations while reducing burden both for respondents and the agency. Form EIA-923M is the monthly version of the *Power Plant Operation Report* and its respondents are drawn from Form EIA-860 *Annual Electric Generator Report* frame using model-based cutoff sampling.

The current monthly sample design starts with a convenient core sample of power plants, calculates Relative Standard Errors (RSEs) -- a measure of reliability of estimates, and then adds more sample units as needed, in publication categories where the RSE is larger than the desired threshold. The new cutoff sample for Form EIA-923 consists of all units with a capacity or generation size that is larger than the predefined thresholds. The monthly sample respondents generally provide upwards of 80 percent of total electricity generation in each publication category. The section below provides details about the sampling and estimation methods used for Form EIA-923.

Cutoff sampling enables EIA to more accurately measure changes in electric utility activity over time and capture data seasonality. This approach also reduces the monthly reporting burden for smaller industry participants, a crucial benefit given that these entities have historically contributed to a high percentage of reporting errors observed in both Form EIA-861 and Form EIA-923. Consequently, cutoff sampling is expected to reduce the levels of non-sampling error affecting published estimates for both forms.

### **Relative Standard Error (RSE) as a Measure of Sample Accuracy**

EIA uses the RSE measure to evaluate the reliability of an estimated statistic. RSE expresses the standard error of statistics as a percentage of its estimated value.

## **Sample Selection and Estimation/Imputation Procedures for Electric Power Surveys**

### **Form EIA-861M**

Form EIA-861M is a monthly survey of all energy marketers and service providers, most investor-owned utilities, all federal end-use utilities, and a sample of municipal and cooperative electric power utilities which sell or deliver electric power to end users. The sample includes electric power entities that provide bundled electric services. The survey collects monthly operation information on retail electric sales, sale revenues and retail customer counts by end-use sector (residential, commercial, industrial, transportation) and state. These data are the monthly equivalent to the corresponding annual data reported on Form EIA-861.

Form EIA-861M uses the annual Form EIA-861 as its sampling frame, and each month estimates for the non-sampled members of the universe are computed by using regression-based imputation weighted linear regression models for each end-use sector. The same regression procedure also imputes for any missing monthly data or survey submissions that fail EIA validation edits. The monthly respondents are a model-based cutoff sample composed of larger companies that typically sell most of the electricity in each state and customer class.

Form EIA-861M sample include:

- All investor-owned utilities (IOUs), except for a few small IOUs in Alaska
- All retail power marketers

- All end-use federal utilities
- All entities selling electricity to the public transportation sector, and
- A sample of the municipal and cooperative utilities

Form EIA-861M is a smaller cutoff sample of Form EIA-861. The Form EIA-861M sample design and estimation procedures employ weighted linear regression models to represent the relationship between a respondent's most recent annual and current monthly sales and revenue data. The retail sales and revenue reported on the most recently completed annual EIA-861 data are utilized as the regressor for the models.

The regression models derived from the cutoff samples in the EIA-861M and EIA-923 monthly models are not employed for imputing annual respondents or estimating missing data when prior year's annual data are unavailable. This scenario typically arises for entities newly identified during monthly data collection, though such instances are infrequent. In the case of a newly identified power generator that has reported in the EIA-860M, its monthly data are directly utilized in estimating totals.

The model parameters are estimated separately each month using three variables (sales volume in MWh, revenues in thousands of U.S. dollars, and the number of customers) by end-use sector and geographic region. The models are then applied to estimate data for entities not in the Form EIA-861M monthly sample but with valid annual Form EIA-861 data. The same model is used to impute for non-respondents and cases where submitted data fails EIA's data review. Data for which EIA has a complete census each month – that is, retail power marketers and the electric utilities that provide distribution services for the marketers<sup>3</sup> -- are added to the sampled and estimated values to obtain monthly estimates for the entire universe.

The monthly cutoff sample thresholds for Form EIA-861M are selected based on the criterion of having estimated RSE values of less than 1 percent for all data published at the state level by end-use sector. The RSE is a percentage measure of the precision of a survey statistic and is used as a way to measure error introduced by using model-based predicted monthly values in place of non-sampled and missing data for the quantities of interest (revenues, sales, and number of customers). Threshold values for the cutoff sampling have been adjusted over time to maintain low RSEs for the published estimates.

The entities excluded from reporting on Form EIA-861, which now complete the short Form EIA-861S, have annual sales of less than 200,000 MWhs and account for approximately 2 percent of total retail sales. EIA uses the model-based estimation methodologies currently used for the monthly Form EIA-861M to estimate sales and revenue values for EIA-861S respondents.

### **Form EIA-923**

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<sup>3</sup> If imputation is necessary due to nonresponse of either census group, the most recent census monthly data would be used to impute for the missing data.

Form EIA-923 is a monthly and annual survey of electric power plants. The survey collects information that includes electric power generation, energy source consumption, fossil fuel stocks at the end of the reporting period, as well as the quality and cost of fossil fuels received.

The monthly Form EIA-923 utilizes cutoff sampling to reduce the burden on smaller capacity plants. EIA collects monthly data on Form EIA-923 from entities (i.e., power plants) with a large electricity generation capacity. Annual totals are collected at the end of the reporting year from plants with smaller generation capacities. The monthly sample is selected from the Form EIA-860 sampling frame of electric power plants. With the combination of monthly and annual respondents, Form EIA-923 collects data from all operational and standby power plants that are connected to the grid and have a generation capacity of at least 1 MW.

Since a cutoff sample is used to collect monthly power plant operation survey data and to construct weighted linear regression models by regressing the monthly data on the most recent annual data, EIA imputes monthly values for the smaller annual plants using these regression models. EIA can estimate monthly values for these out-of-sample plants because their latest annual regressor data are available for all plants in the EIA-923 annual sample.

EIA uses sampling strata to ensure adequate coverage in all geographic regions, sectors, and energy source categories. The sampling strata are defined by facility sector, energy source used for power generation, and geographic region. For instance, one stratum is identified as electric utilities burning coal in the South Atlantic Census Division. There are four facility sector types: electric utilities, independent power producers, commercial facilities, and industrial facilities; 14 energy source categories, which correspond to the energy source classifications used in the *Electric Power Monthly* (EPM); and 10 geographic groups; all together resulting in more than 250 regression models used in the sample selection process.

### ***Form EIA-923 Sample Selection Criteria***

The following five steps are used in selecting plants for the monthly sample in a particular publication category:

1. Select preliminary cutoff sample units based on nameplate capacity coverage values
2. Add sample units, where necessary, based on generation, consumption, and stocks
3. Add sample units, where necessary, to provide adequate sample counts for estimation groups
4. Add sample units, where necessary, to reduce model-based RSEs of key estimates to acceptable threshold levels
5. Add other facilities, based on special-case criteria

The first three steps are designed to ensure adequate coverage of the target population by including all of the largest contributors to key data elements. The fourth step ensures that the published estimates

meet reasonable reliability standards. The fifth step in the sample design adds facilities based on the following special-case criteria. Facilities in the target population that meet any one of the sample selection criteria applied at any of the five steps are included in the final sample. Each sampled facility reports data each month for all combinations of prime mover and fuel source, regardless of which of the above five steps qualify it to be included in the sample.

All nuclear and pumped storage facilities report monthly and hence are included among the monthly sample plants.

The remainder of this section provides further detail on the five sampling steps listed above.

***Step 1: Select Preliminary Cutoff Sample Units Based on Nameplate Capacity Coverage.***

Pre-determined capacity coverage percentages are tested to ensure a certain proportion of operational Form EIA-860 capacity is covered within each sampling stratum. Stand-by generators are not included in the operational capacity totals when data are aggregated to the level of prime mover, and only the largest consumed fuel source for each generator is used in identifying the stratum.

Different target coverage percentages are selected for each facility classification using plants with nameplate capacity over 25 MW and are applied to all regions and energy sources within each facility classification. Otherwise, the capacity coverage percentage targets to be included in the sample are as follows:

1. Electric utilities – 80 percent
2. Independent power producers – 75 percent
3. Commercial facilities – 54 percent
4. Industrial facilities – 67 percent

***Step 2: Add Units Based on Generation, Consumption, and Stocks.***

Facilities accounting for large percentages of actual past reported gross generation, fuel consumption, or fuel stocks, are added to the sample, even if their nameplate capacities fall below the percentage cutoff for capacity coverage.

***Step 3: Add Units to Ensure Adequate Sample Counts in Estimation Groups.***

Instead of fitting models separately for each sampling stratum, the cases are collapsed to form *estimation groups* that have data as homogenous as possible while also having the largest number of observations. *The estimation groups* provide better fitting models than if the models were fit separately to each sampling stratum. These groups are re-formed over time as changes in the data occur. Units below the threshold value are added to any estimation group with fewer than 10 usable observations, until the usable count is brought up to 10.

**Step 4: Add Sample to Meet Reliability Standards.**

Weighted linear regression equations, identical to those currently employed in the Form EIA-923 imputation system, are run, and RSE (or Coefficient of Variation) estimates are calculated for each publication group by month. An additional diagnostic measure, the RSE for the super population (RSESP), is calculated to indicate the adequacy of the regression model fit. RSE thresholds for both measures, RSE and RSESP, are set individually for the estimated totals in each stratum of facility sector, energy source, and geographic region.

If one or both of the error measures fall outside of the limits, the next largest facilities, ranked by gross generation, are included until the estimated RSE and RSESP values are brought into the desired range. If only the RSESP estimate (and not the RSE estimate) is out of range, then it is difficult to lower the estimate of RSESP based on sampling, alone. In these cases, a change in modeling may be necessary. The RSE and RSESP data quality limits are outlined, as follows:

- Electric utilities – RSE less than 5 percent and RSESP less than 20 percent
- Independent power producers – RSE less than 5 percent and RSESP less than 20 percent
- Commercial facilities – RSE less than 10 percent and RSESP less than 30 percent
- Industrial facilities – RSE less than 10 percent and RSESP less than 30 percent

**Step 5: Add Special Cases.**

Lastly, additional facilities are added to the sample, as necessary. These include storage-only facilities (used in estimating stocks); new facilities for which the EIA has no prior year's annual data for use in regression imputation; and any new large facilities that the survey staff identifies for inclusion in the sample.

**Sample Validation and Sampling Results**

The sample methodology was implemented in order to decrease the population of power plants reporting monthly is a result of EIA's extensive research into how a lower monthly sample size will affect the ability to impute/predict values for power plants reporting on an annual basis. EIA tested and confirmed the validity of the sampling and estimation strategy by using less recent but relevant regressor data. These simulations, however, presuppose that the total census frame is maintained every year on Form EIA-923 to prevent over/under respondent imputation.

As described above, the electric power plants currently reporting on a monthly basis on Form EIA-923M account for approximately 87 percent of total electricity generation. It has been determined that the current model-based estimation methodologies employed for the remaining population of power plants that submit data annually on Form EIA-923 provide sufficiently accurate imputed/predicted values.

**Form EIA-930**

The purpose of the Form EIA-930 imputation procedure is to account for missing data or anomalous data reported by respondents that would prevent the calculation of complete or reasonably approximate regional and national totals. The imputed values are used in the calculation of regional and national aggregate values and for daily aggregation values at the Balancing Authority (BA) level.

The data processing system currently performs imputations for demand, net generation, and system level interchange values. Imputed values are flagged in the database as either missing or anomalous. Once corrected data are received, the corrected actual reported values are used to re-calculate and re-publish both regional and national totals and daily aggregation values at the BA level.

Demand values that are imputed are identified as follows:

- Blank/missing values
- Zero values
- Negative values
- Values that are equal to or greater than 1.5 times a maximum value specified for each BA

Net generation values that are imputed are identified as follows:

- Blank/missing values
- Zero values, except for a small number of BAs for whom zero net generation is a valid value
- Negative values, except for a small number of “generation-only” BAs for whom a negative value between -11 and 0 is valid
- Values that are equal to or greater than 1.5 times a maximum value specified for each BA

System level interchange values that are imputed are identified as follows:

- Values that are equal to or greater than 1.5 times a maximum value specified for each BA

The maximum values specified for each BA are based on their maximum reported historical demand, net generation, and system level interchange values excluding likely anomalous values and, for demand, a comparison to FERC-714 monthly peak demand values if comparable.

Imputation for demand values is performed as follows:

1. Use the BA’s reported value for demand forecast for the hour in question. (This step is skipped for a small number of BAs due to the non-comparability of their demand and demand forecast values.)
2. If the previous step’s value is missing, use the previous hour’s demand value.
3. If the previous step’s value is missing or imputed, use the demand value for the same hour of the prior day.
4. If the previous step’s value is missing or imputed, use the last available daily average demand for that BA.

Imputation for net generation values is performed as follows:

1. Use the previous hour's net generation value.
2. If the previous step's value is missing or imputed, use the net generation value for the same hour of the prior day.
3. If the previous step's value is missing or imputed, use the last available daily average net generation for that BA.

Imputation for system level interchange values is performed as follows:

1. Impute a value of 0 in all cases.

### B.3. Maximizing Response Rates

The response rates for the EIA electric power and renewable surveys have historically been at or near 100 percent. Recent response rates are shown below in Table 1.

**Table 1. Recent Survey Response Rates**

| Frequency of Survey                                                    | Survey   | Sample Size | Number of Responses | Response Percentage | Non-Responses | Non-Response Percentage |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Annual Surveys<br>Collection of 2023 Data*                             | EIA-860  | 6200        | 6118                | 99.81%              | 82            | 1.32%                   |
|                                                                        | EIA-861  | 1739        | 1738                | 99.94%              | 1             | 0.06%                   |
|                                                                        | EIA-861S | 1689        | 1689                | 100%                |               | 0%                      |
|                                                                        | EIA-923  | 11930       | 11844               | 99.28%              | 87            | 0.73%                   |
| Monthly Surveys<br>Collection of December 2024 Data in February 2025** | EIA-861M | 644         | 620                 | 96.27%              | 24            | 3.73%                   |
|                                                                        | EIA-860M | 539         | 537                 | 99.63%              | 2             | 0.37%                   |
|                                                                        | EIA-923  | 3204        | 3199                | 99.84%              | 5             | 0.16%                   |
| Hourly Surveys<br><br>Collection of 2025 Data                          | EIA-930  | 63          |                     | 100%                | 63            | 0%                      |

\*The most current, complete annual surveys collection was for 2023 data, completed and published in October 2024.

\*\*The latest monthly data collection was for April 2025 data. The data, which are considered preliminary, were published in late June. \*\*\*This day was chosen as a representative day. Hourly data are posted within one hour and daily data are posted the next day.

To maximize response rates, EIA survey forms and instructions are designed and written for clarity and conciseness. Data that are not expected to change from year-to-year or month-to-month are prepopulated on the forms. Notifications are emailed early to maximize the time that respondents have to complete the surveys.

As noted in Part A, EIA's Internet data collection system makes forms available on-line as soon as respondents obtain a secure ID and password. Given the high Internet use rate among respondents to these surveys (approximately 95 percent), most online respondents will log on in the next data collection period and access their required forms. Form due dates are the same each period so that respondents can schedule their completion activities.

Any non-respondents are contacted by email, telephone, and letter to request data submission, until an insignificant or zero non-response rate is obtained. Follow-up email messages citing sanctions for failing to file the required form(s) are sent to all non-respondents. If the follow-up emails do not result in a response, additional correspondence requesting immediate submission is sent to the supervisor of the primary contact and, if necessary, to higher-level management officials at the nonresponding entity.

Respondents who file via the Internet System have the opportunity to either correct or explain unusual data during their submission. EIA staff review these explanations. Respondents are contacted if further clarification is needed. For those respondents that do not file via the Internet, but rather on a hard copy of the form, email messages are sent and/or telephone calls are made to confirm corrections or clarifications of any data suspected to be in error.

Changes in plant ownership and/or contacts have contributed in the past to non-response. To address this issue, EIA developed an improved centralized frame system for the electric power surveys. The system allows all survey staff to have immediate knowledge of changes in entity ownership and/or contacts. This frame system is integrated with the EIA's Internet Data Collection system so that access can quickly be given to new owners and/or contacts.

#### **B.4. Test Procedures and Form Consultations**

The survey designs are reviewed by EIA cognitive specialists and modified as necessary to improve clarity and reduce burden.

For additional information on forms review, please see Part A, section A.8., "Summary of Consultations Outside of the Agency." For a summary of the comments received and EIA's responses, see the Public Comment File submitted with this OMB package.

#### **B.5. Statistical Consultations**

For additional information concerning this data collection, please contact Debra Coaxum (SDAT) at 202-586-7876 or by email [Debra.Coaxum@eia.gov](mailto:Debra.Coaxum@eia.gov).