



Supporting Statement for EIA-860S (Supplement) – Voluntary State Level Generator Air Permit

July 2026

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

OMB No. 1905-0215

Form EIA-860S, Voluntary State Level Generator Air Permit Inventory

Table of Contents

B.1. Respondent Universe.....	2
B.2. Statistical Methods.....	2
B.3. Maximizing Response Rates.....	2
B.4. Test Procedures and Form Consultations.....	3
B.5. Statistical Consultations.....	3

B.1. Respondent Universe

The EIA-860S (Supplement) is an annual voluntary standby survey of air permitting offices of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the five major U.S. territories. Based on EIA's experience during the previous emergency data collection, we expect to receive a high response rate of 100%.

B.2. Statistical Methods

The total number of respondents for this data collection will be 150, comprising a census of the air permitting offices of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the five major U.S. territories. In some states, for example Washington State, air permitting is delegated to regional clean air districts.

This will be a complete voluntary census of all air permitting offices in the targeted geographic regions. No sampling or estimation methods will be used.

The proposed survey is scheduled to be annual voluntary standby form.

B.3. Maximizing Response Rates

To maximize response rates and minimize respondent burden, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) employs a multi-faceted approach involving user-centric survey design, proactive outreach, targeted follow-up, and automated data integration for the EIA-860S (Supplement).

- **Survey Design and Burden Reduction:** The EIA-860S is engineered for maximum clarity and conciseness. To prevent duplicative reporting, the survey scope is limited; respondents are only required to report new air permits issued since the previous data collection period. Furthermore, to minimize active respondent burden, EIA will utilize web-scraping to collect air permit information directly from public-facing state databases where available, integrating this data to supplement the collection process.
- **Proactive Outreach:** EIA will distribute electronic notifications to respondents early in the reporting cycle. This maximizes the time frame available for respondents to compile and submit their information before the deadline.
- **Non-Response Follow-Up (NRFU):** To resolve outstanding submissions and strive toward a near-zero non-response rate, EIA will execute a progressive, multi-tier follow-up protocol. Staff will contact non-reporting entities systematically via email, telephone, official correspondence, and, if necessary, targeted in-person visits.
- **Data Quality Assurance:** The survey submission system enables real-time data verification. Respondents are prompted to resolve data anomalies or submit explanatory comments directly within the interface during the submission process. EIA staff will systematically audit these explanations and conduct direct follow-up with respondents should further clarification be required.

B.4. Test Procedures and Form Consultations

The EIA-860S (Supplement) survey design is reviewed by EIA survey methodologists and modified as necessary to improve clarity and reduce burden.

B.5. Statistical Consultations

For additional information concerning this proposed information collection, please contact Kenneth Pick at eia-frncomments@eia.gov.