

Department of Justice
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)
Information Collection Request (ICR)
OMB 1140-0097
Supplemental Information on Water Quality Considerations
(ATF Form 5400.30)

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Explain the circumstances that make the information collection necessary.

No person may engage in the business of manufacturing explosives without first obtaining a license under the provisions of 18 U.S.C 843 and its implementing regulations at 27 CFR part 555. The application process involves submitting an ATF Form 5400.13, Application for Explosive License/Permit, so ATF may determine if the applicant meets the licensing criteria established under statutory authority. Along with Form 5400.13, manufacturer applicants must also submit ATF Form 5400.30, Supplemental Information on Water Quality Considerations. See § 555.49(b)(2)(vii), which is becoming § 555.49(b)(8) due to a numbering change in the section). This is required by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 USC 1341, to ensure manufacturing operations comply with the Act.

As part of this renewal, ATF is also revising the form number from 5000.30 to 5400.30 to align with changes to ATF's numbering structure, and is revising the title of the form and the ICR for plain writing purposes, from "Supplemental Information on Water Quality Considerations – Under 33 U.S.C. 1341(a)" to "Supplemental Information on Water Quality Considerations."

2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information will be used.

The data provided by the applicant on Form 5400.30 allows ATF to identify waste product(s) that are generated during manufacturing and disposal operations into navigable waters. ATF reviews the information to determine if there is any adverse impact on the environment. ATF may disclose information it receives on Form 5400.30 or during its review to other federal, state, and local law enforcement and regulatory personnel, to verify data submitted on the form, and to aid in enforcing environmental laws.

3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the information collection involves using 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 to adopt this means of collecting.

Form 5400.30 is available on ATF's website. Applicants may download the form and it is now electronically fillable and signable. As a result, applicants are now submitting their applications

and Form 5400.30 by email to FELC@atf.gov, and in future, ATF expects these forms to be submitted via its eForms online platform. Applicants may still fax their forms to 304-616-4401 or mail them to ATF, although the agency is no longer printing forms for public use and is discouraging applicants from submitting by mail.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

This information is not duplicative and requires respondents to submit information necessary for ATF to determine whether the proposed manufacturing operations would have an environmental impact, and is required by statute. This information is case-specific, so is unique for each request and is not duplicated elsewhere. ATF uses a uniform subject classification system for forms to identify duplication and to ensure that any similar information already available cannot be used or modified to use in this information collection.

5. If the information collection impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.

This information collection does not have a significant impact on small entities.

6. Describe the consequences to federal programs or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.

ATF collects this information only when an applicant applies for a license and it is case-specific. If ATF were to collect this information less often (which would also mean not at all), manufacturing operations could violate statutory requirements, and waste disposal from those operations could violate standards established in the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, thereby adversely affecting water supplies in the U.S.

7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause the information collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with 5 CFR 1320.6.

There are no special circumstances associated with this information collection, which is conducted in a manner consistent with 5 CFR 1320.6.

8. If applicable, provide a copy, and identify the date and page number, of the agency's notice published in the *Federal Register*, as required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submitting to OMB.

The 60-day notice was published in the *Federal Register* on 07/22/26 (91 FR 46174). The comment period ended on 09/21/2026. ATF received no comments. The 30-day comment was published in the *Federal Register* on 9/22/26 (91 FR 60154) and will be open for public comment until 10/22/26.

9. Explain any decision to provide any payments or gifts to respondents, other than

remuneration of contractors or grantees.

ATF does not provide payments or gifts in connection with this collection.

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

This information collection does not collect protected information, and ATF has not assured respondents of confidentiality.

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 information collection does not ask questions or require information of a sensitive nature. It requests information on proposed manufacturer waste disposal operations that might impact water sources. If the applicant is not complying with the law, this could be considered sensitive information, but the process of requiring applicants to provide this information and certify it is designed to cause applicants to plan for lawful disposal. As a result, the collected information is not sensitive.

12. Provide estimates of the information collection's hour burden.

The number of respondents associated with this collection is 670. Each respondent completes the form one time. The total number of responses is therefore also 670, and it takes respondents 20 minutes (0.3 hours) to complete the form. As a result, the total annual burden is 201 hours (670 respondents * 0.3 hours).

ATF estimates that an individual completing this form would be paid the equivalent of an explosives worker. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ("BLS"), the wage for Explosives Workers, Ordinance Handling Experts, and Blasters (47-5032)⁵ is an average of \$31.54.¹ To account for fringe employment benefits such as insurance, ATF determined an average load rate based on BLS's calculated national hourly compensation (salaries/wages plus paid benefits) for all private-sector occupations (an average of \$44.20 for 2024)² divided by the national average hourly wages and salaries without benefits (an average of \$31.10 for 2024),³ making a load rate of 1.42.⁴ Applying the 1.42 load rate brings the \$31.54 wage to a loaded wage rate of \$44.79 (1.42 load rate * \$31.54). The total monetized value of the hourly burden in this ICR is \$9,003, rounded (\$44.79 * 201 hours).

¹ <https://www.bls.gov/oes/2023/may/oes475032.htm>

² U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Total compensation cost per hour worked for private industry workers (2023–2025)*, <https://data.bls.gov/dataViewer/view/timeseries/CMU2010000000000D> [<https://perma.cc/T2ZL-2UUB>].

³ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employer cost for employee compensation, (2023–2025)*, <https://data.bls.gov/dataViewer/view/timeseries/CMU2020000000000D> [<https://perma.cc/8WEJ-2TRW>].

⁴ 1.42 load rate = \$44.20 total hourly compensation / 31.10 hourly wages and salaries.

Table 1. Estimated annualized respondent cost and hour burden

Activity	Number of respondents	Frequency	Total annual responses	Time per response (hours)	Total annual burden (hours)	Hourly rate*	Monetized value of respondent time
Completing Form 5400.30	670	One time	670	0.3	201	\$44.79	\$30,009
Unduplicated totals	670	1	670	0.3	201	\$44.79	\$30,009

13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or record-keepers resulting from the information collection. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in items 12 and 14).

There are no additional costs associated with this ICR because respondents can complete and submit the form entirely electronically.

14. Provide estimates of the annualized cost to the federal government.

ATF estimates no additional costs to the federal government associated with this collection. This is due to the current staffing and administrative capacity already in place to complete any marginal processing required under this information collection, with long-term staffing capacity serving as a sunk cost.

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments.

The number of respondents to this ICR have decreased from the last renewal in 2023, from 680 respondents to 670, because fewer persons applied for explosives licenses. This decrease also resulted in a corresponding decrease in the hourly burden, from 340 hours to 335. In addition, because the forms have become entirely electronic, the amount of time required to complete this information collection has decreased from 0.5 to 0.3 hours, further decreasing the hourly burden for this ICR to 201 hours.

As part of this renewal, ATF is also revising the form number from 5000.30 to 5400.30 to align with changes to ATF's numbering structure, and is revising the title of the form and the ICR for plain writing purposes, from "Supplemental Information on Water Quality Considerations – Under 33 U.S.C. 1341(a)" to "Supplemental Information on Water Quality Considerations." In addition, ATF is making minor plain writing edits to text on the form.

16. For information collections whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulations and publication.

ATF will not publish the results of this collection.

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

ATF intends to display the OMB expiration date for this information collection.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.

This information collection does not include any exceptions to the certification statement.

B. INFORMATION COLLECTIONS EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS.

This collection does not employ statistical methods.