

initial mailing. Telephone calls and/or letters encouraging participation will be mailed to respondents who have not responded by the designated time.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607–0392.

Form Number: See Chart Above.

Type of Review: Regular Review.

Affected Public: Businesses, or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,650.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1.3497 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 6,276 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The estimated cost to respondents for all the CIR reports in Wave I for fiscal year 2007 is \$115,667.

Respondent's Obligation: The CIR program includes both mandatory and voluntary surveys.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 61, 182, 224, and 225.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 23, 2006.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

2007 Economic Census Covering the Utilities, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing Sectors

ACTION: Proposed collection, comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before May 1, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at DHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Steven Roman, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 2665, Building 3, Washington, DC 20233–0001 (301–763–2824 or via the Internet at sroman@census.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The economic census, conducted under authority of Title 13, United States Code (USC), is the primary source of facts about the structure and functioning of the Nation's economy. Economic statistics serve as part of the framework for the national accounts and provide essential information for government, business, and the general public. Economic data are the Census Bureau's primary program commitment during nondecennial census years. The 2007 Economic Census covering the Utilities, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing sectors (as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)) will measure the economic activity of more than 1 million establishments. However, approximately 13% of establishments will not be required to file separate

reports because they will be included in consolidated company reports; for explanation see selection procedure for establishments of multi-establishment firms below. The information collected will produce basic statistics by kind of business on the number of establishments, revenue, payroll, and employment. It will also yield a variety of subject statistics, including revenue by product line, and other industry-specific measures. Primary strategies for reducing burden in Census Bureau economic data collections are to increase reporting through standardized questionnaires and broader electronic data collection methods.

II. Method of Collection

Mail Selection Procedures

Establishments in the Utilities, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing sectors of the economic census will be selected from the Census Bureau's Business Register for a mail canvass. To be eligible for selection, an establishment will be required to satisfy the following conditions: (i) It must be classified in one of the Utilities, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing sectors; (ii) it must be an active operating establishment of a multi-establishment firm (*i.e.*, a firm that operates at more than one physical location), or it must be a single-establishment firm with payroll (*i.e.*, a firm operating at only one physical location); and (iii) it must be located in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia. Mail selection procedures will distinguish the following groups of establishments:

1. Establishments of Multi-Establishment Firms

Selection procedures will assign all eligible establishments of multi-establishment firms to the mail component of the potential respondent universe, except for those in selected industries in utilities, and finance and insurance. In these selected industries, where revenue and certain other operating data are not easily attributable to individual establishments, division- or firm-level organizations are asked to report kind of business, payroll, and employment for several establishments, and other required data at a more aggregate level on a consolidated report form.

We estimate that the 2007 Economic Census mail canvasses for the Utilities, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate

and Rental and Leasing sectors will include approximately 262,800 establishment and consolidated reports of multi-establishment firms.

2. Single-Establishment Firms With Payroll

As an initial step in the selection process, we will conduct a study of the potential respondent universe. This study will produce a set of industry-specific payroll cutoffs that we will use to distinguish large versus small single-establishment firms within each industry or kind of business. This payroll size distinction will affect selection as follows:

a. Large Single-Establishment Firms

All single-establishment firms having annualized payroll (from Federal administrative records) that equals or exceeds the cutoff for their industry will be included in the mail component of the potential respondent universe. We estimate that the 2007 Economic Census mail canvasses for the Utilities, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing sectors will include approximately 273,700 large single-establishment firms.

b. Small Single-Establishment Firms

A sample of single-establishment firms having annualized payroll below the cutoff for their industry will be included in the mail component of the potential respondent universe. Sampling strata and corresponding probabilities of selection will be determined by a study of the potential respondent universe conducted shortly before the mail selection operations begin. We estimate that the 2007 Economic Census mail canvasses for the Utilities, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing sectors will include approximately 38,300 small single-establishment firms selected in this sample.

All remaining single-establishment firms with payroll will be represented in the census by data from Federal administrative records. Generally, we will not include these small employers in the census mail canvasses. However, administrative records sometimes have fundamental industry classification deficiencies that make them unsuitable for use in producing detailed industry statistics by geographic area. When we find such a deficiency, we will mail the firm a census classification form. We estimate that the 2007 Economic Census mail canvasses for the Utilities, Transportation and Warehousing,

Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing sectors will include approximately 78,200 small single-establishment firms that receive these forms.

III. Data

OMB Number: Not available.

Form Number: The 31 standard forms, five classification forms, and three ownership or control fliers used to collect information from businesses in these sectors of the Economic Census are tailored to specific business practices and are too numerous to list separately in this notice. Requests for information on the proposed content of the forms should be directed to Steven Roman, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 2665, Building 3, Washington, DC 20233-0001 (301-763-2824 or via the Internet at sroman@census.gov).

Type of Review: Regular review.

Affected Public: State or local governments, businesses, or other for profit or non-profit institutions or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents:

Utilities (Standard Form)—6,700.

Utilities (Classification Form)—(none).

Transportation and Warehousing (Standard Form)—197,000.

Transportation and Warehousing (Classification Form)—28,000.

Finance and Insurance (Standard Form)—344,000.

Finance and Insurance (Classification Form)—23,000.

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (Standard Form)—335,000.

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (Classification Form)—26,000.

Total—959,700.

Estimated Time Per Response:

Utilities (Standard Form)—1.90 hours.

Utilities (Classification Form)—(none).

Transportation and Warehousing (Standard Form)—1.10 hours.

Transportation and Warehousing (Classification Form)—.20 hours.

Finance and Insurance (Standard Form)—1.40 hours.

Finance and Insurance (Classification Form)—.20 hours.

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (Standard Form)—1.10 hours.

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (Classification Form)—.20 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: Utilities (Standard Form)—12,700 hours.

Utilities (Classification Form)—(none).

Transportation and Warehousing (Standard Form)—216,700 hours.

Transportation and Warehousing (Classification Form)—5,600 hours.

Finance and Insurance (Standard Form)—481,600 hours.

Finance and Insurance (Classification Form)—4,600 hours.

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (Standard Form)—368,500 hours.

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (Classification Form)—5,200 hours.

Total—1,094,900.

Estimated Total Annual Cost:

Utilities (Standard Form)—\$313,309.

Utilities (Classification Form)—(none).

Transportation and Warehousing (Standard Form)—\$5,345,989.

Transportation and Warehousing (Classification Form)—\$138,152.

Finance and Insurance (Standard Form)—\$11,881,072.

Finance and Insurance (Classification Form)—\$113,482.

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (Standard Form)—\$9,090,895.

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (Classification Form)—\$128,284.

Total—\$27,011,183.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, U.S.C., Sections 131 and 224.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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Dated: February 23, 2006.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst.

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