

product accounts. No changes are proposed for Form BE-93.

II. Method of Collection

Form BE-93 will be sent each year to potential respondents in January and responses are due by March 31. A U.S. person that has transactions in intangible rights with unaffiliated foreign persons is required to report if total covered receipts or covered payments are more than \$2 million during the covered year. A U.S. person that receives a form but is not required to report data must file an exemption claim.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0608-0017.

Form Number: BE-93.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: U.S. businesses or other for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 650 annually.

Estimated Time Per Response: 4 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 2,600 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$78,000 (based on an estimated reporting burden of 2,600 hours and estimated hourly cost of \$30).

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 22, U.S.C., Sections 3101-3108.

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 has 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 will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 1, 2003.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Proposed Data Sharing Activity

AGENCY: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) proposes to provide to the Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) data collected from the Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States—1997 and the Benchmark Survey of U.S. Direct Investment Abroad—1999 for statistical purposes exclusively. In accordance with the requirement of Section 524(d) of the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA), we are providing the opportunity for public comment on this data-sharing action. Through the use of these shared data, the Census Bureau will augment its existing research and development (R&D)-related data collected in the Survey of Industrial Research and Development, which is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Census Bureau will also identify data quality issues arising from reporting differences in the BEA and Census Bureau surveys and improve its survey sample frames. The NSF will be provided non-confidential aggregate data (public use) and reports that have cleared BEA and Census Bureau disclosure review. Disclosure review is a process conducted to verify that the data to be released do not reveal any confidential information.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before September 5, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Please direct all written comments on this proposed program to the Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BE-1), Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information on this proposed program should be directed to Ned Howenstine, Chief, Research Branch, International Investment Division, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BE-50), Washington, DC 20230, by phone on (202) 606-9845 or by fax (202) 606-5318.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

CIPSEA (Pub. L. 107-347, Title V) and the International Investment and Trade in Services Survey Act (Pub. L. 94-472,

22 United States Code (U.S.C.) 3101-3108) allow BEA and the Census Bureau to share certain business data for exclusively statistical purposes. Section 524(d) of the CIPSEA requires a **Federal Register** notice announcing the intent to share data (allowing 60 days for public comment).

Section 524(d) also requires us to provide information about the terms of the agreement for data sharing. For purposes of this notice, BEA has decided to group these terms by three categories. The categories are:

- Shared data.
- Statistical purposes for the shared data.
- Data access and confidentiality.

Shared Data

BEA proposes to provide the Census Bureau with data collected from the Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States—1997 and the Benchmark Survey of U.S. Direct Investment Abroad—1999. The agreement also calls for the Census Bureau to share data collected from the 1997 and 1999 Surveys of Industrial Research and Development with BEA. A separate notice (68 FR 33094, June 3, 2003) addresses this issue.

BEA will provide the Census Bureau with only those data items necessary to link records from the two benchmark surveys with records from the Census Bureau's Surveys of Industrial Research and Development. The Census Bureau will use these data for statistical purposes exclusively. Through record linkage, the Census Bureau will augment its existing R&D-related data, identify data quality issues arising from reporting differences in the Census Bureau and BEA surveys, and improve its survey sample frames.

Statistical Purposes for the Shared Data

The data collected from the Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States—1997 and the Benchmark Survey of U.S. Direct Investment Abroad—1999 are used to estimate expenditures on research and development performed by U.S. affiliates of foreign companies, foreign affiliates of U.S. companies, and the foreign affiliates' U.S. parent companies, R&D employment, and other statistics on the financial structure and operations of these companies. Statistics from the Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States—1997 were published in *Foreign Direct Investment in the United States: Final Results From the 1997 Benchmark Survey*; statistics from the Benchmark Survey of U.S. Direct Investment Abroad—1999 will be published in *U.S.*