This document is scheduled to be published in the
Federal Register on 09/03/2015 and available online at
http://federalregister.gov/a/2015-21877, and on **FDsys.gov**

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Services Surveys: BE-30, Quarterly Survey of Ocean Freight Revenues and Foreign Expenses of U.S. Carriers, and the BE-37, Quarterly Survey of U.S. Airline Operators' Foreign Revenues and Expenses

AGENCY: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

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 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 [insert date 60 days after publication].

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230, or via email at *jjessup@doc.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instruments and instructions should be directed to Christopher Stein, Chief, Services Surveys Branch (SSB) BE-50, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230; phone: (202) 606-9850; fax: (202) 606-5318; email: *christopher.stein@bea.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Quarterly Survey of Ocean Freight Revenues and Foreign Expenses of U.S. Carriers (BE-30) is a survey that collects data from U.S. ocean freight carriers (owners and operators) whose total covered revenues or total covered expenses incurred outside the United States were $500,000 or more in the previous year or are expected to be $500,000 or more during the current year. The covered revenues are: 1) revenue on cargo outbound from U.S. ports and the associated shipping weight; 2) revenue on cargo inbound into the United States and the associated shipping weight; 3) revenue on cross-trade cargoes; 4) charter hire (with crew) and space leasing revenues from foreign residents. The covered expenses are: 1) fuel expenses in foreign countries; 2) expenses in foreign countries other than fuel expenses; and 3) charter hire (with crew) and space leasing payments to foreign residents. A report is not required from U.S. ocean freight carriers whose total annual covered revenues and total annual covered expenses are below $500,000.

The Quarterly Survey of U.S. Airline Operators' Foreign Revenues and Expenses (BE-37) is a survey that collects data from U.S. airline operators engaged in the international transportation of goods and/or passengers and whose total covered revenues or total covered expenses incurred outside the United States were $500,000 or more in the previous year or are expected to be $500,000 or more during the current year. The covered revenues are: 1) revenue derived from carriage of export freight and express from the United States to points outside the United States; 2) revenue derived from carriage of freight and express originating from, and destined to, points outside the United States; 3) revenue derived from transporting passengers originating from, and destined to, points outside the United States; 4) revenue from transporting passengers to and from the United States and the associated number of passengers; 5) interline settlement receipts from foreign airline operators. The covered expenses are: 1) expenses incurred outside the United States for fuel and oil, station and maintenance bases, wages, and other goods and services purchased abroad (except aircraft leasing expenses); 2) aircraft (with crew) leasing expenses; and 3) interline settlement payments to foreign airline operators. A report is not required from U.S. airline operators whose total annual covered revenues and total annual covered expenses are below $500,000.

The data collected on these surveys are needed to monitor U.S. trade in transport services to analyze the impact of U.S. trade on the U.S. and foreign economies, to compile and improve the U.S. economic accounts, to support U.S. commercial policy on trade in transport services, to conduct trade promotion, and to improve the ability of U.S. businesses to identify and evaluate market opportunities. The data are used in estimating the transport component of the U.S. international transactions accounts (ITAs) and national income and product accounts (NIPAs).

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is proposing no additions, modifications, or deletions to the current BE-30 survey and minor additions and modifications to the current BE-37 survey to minimize respondent burden while considering the needs of data users. Existing language in the instructions and definitions will be reviewed and adjusted as necessary to clarify survey requirements.

II. Method of Collection

Forms BE-30 and BE-37 are quarterly reports that must be completed within 45 days after the end of each calendar quarter. BEA contacts potential respondents by mail the end of each calendar quarter. Entities required to report will be contacted individually by BEA. Entities not contacted by BEA have no reporting responsibilities.

BEA offers electronic filing through its eFile system for use in reporting on the BE-30 and BE-37 quarterly survey forms. For information about eFile, go to *www.bea.gov/efile*. In addition, BEA posts all its survey forms and reporting instructions on its Web site, *www.bea.gov/ssb*. These may be downloaded, completed, printed, and submitted via fax or mail.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0608-0011.

Form Number: BE-30 and BE-37.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of BE-30 Responses: 280 annually (70 filed each quarter: 62 reporting mandatory data and 8 exemption claims).

Estimated Number of BE-37 Responses: 128 annually (32 filed each quarter: 31 reporting mandatory data and 1 exemption claim).

Estimated Time Per Response: 4 hours is the average for those reporting data. 1 hour is the average for those not reporting data. Hours may vary considerably among respondents because of differences in company size and complexity.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,524 (1,024 for the BE-30; 500 for the BE-37).

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $0.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: International Investment and Trade in Services Survey Act (P.L. 94-472, 22 U.S.C. 3101-3108, as amended).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collections 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 collections 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: August 28, 2015

Glenna Mickelson,

Management Analyst, Office of Chief Information Officer.

BILLING CODE 3510-06-P

[FR Doc. 2015-21877 Filed: 9/2/2015 08:45 am; Publication Date: 9/3/2015]