



THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

URBAN MARKETS INITIATIVE
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June 26, 2006

Diane Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer
Department of Commerce, Room 6625
14th and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230
via e-mail: dhynek@doc.gov

RE: Request for comments regarding the proposed collection of the Company Organization Survey

Dear Ms. Hynek,

On behalf of the Urban Markets Initiative (UMI) of the Brookings Institution, I am pleased to respond to the notice placed by the Census Bureau in the April 26, 2006 Federal Register asking for comments regarding the proposed collection of the 2007 Company Organization Survey (COS).

UMI seeks to stimulate greater private and public investment in urban areas through promoting increased availability, accessibility, and accuracy of community-level demographic and socioeconomic data. From this perspective, UMI believes that the COS is important to the accuracy and availability of data on business activities at the national, state, and local levels. COS contributes to the accuracy of the Business Register, which serves as the sampling frame for County Business Patterns (CBP) as well as several other important datasets on US economic activity. In consequence, we strongly support the Census Bureau's request to carry out the COS.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Andrew Reamer,
Deputy Director, Urban Markets Initiative