BEA
BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration

February 18, 2014

Ms. Jennifer Jessup
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer
Department of Commerce, Room 6616
14th and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

RE: *Federal Register* notice of January 14, 2014, for the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey (OMB Number: 0607-0190)

Dear Ms. Jessup:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the U.S. Bureau of Census' Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey. The data collected from this survey are crucial to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

BEA uses the data from the forms to prepare the national income and product accounts (NIPA), input-output accounts (I-O), and gross domestic product (GDP) by industry accounts. Items used by BEA are listed in the attachment below.

Please keep BEA informed about any modifications to these forms. We are particularly interested in any modifications proposed during the forms approval process that would substantially affect our use of these data. For additional information, please contact Tiffany Burrell, Source Data Coordinator, on 202-606-9618 or by e-mail at Tiffany.Burrell@bea.gov. Should you need assistance in justifying this form to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Fixler
Chief Statistician

Attachment

# ATTACHMENT

## Items used by BEA from the Census Bureau's Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey

| Item Title | Item Use |
|---|---|
| End-of-Month Inventories | Prepare change in private inventories component of GDP<br><br>Measure changes in inventories for estimates of Gross Output in the annual I-O tables and the annual and quarterly GDP-by-industry statistics |
| Sales | Prepare estimates of real inventory-sales ratios in the NIPAs<br><br>Extrapolate proprietors' income for wholesalers (until tax return data become available) in the NIPAs<br><br>Prepare estimates of Gross Output in the annual I-O tables and the annual and quarterly GDP-by-industry statistics |