

October 30, 2013

Mr. Robert Brogan Office of Safety, Planning, and Evaluation Division, RRS-21 Federal Railroad Administration 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Mail Stop 17 Washington, DC 20590

RE:

Federal Register notice of September 16, 2013, for Federal Railroad Administration Accident/Incident Reporting and Recordkeeping Forms (OMB Number: 2130-0500)

Dear Mr. Brogan:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the Federal Railroad Administration on the Accident/Incident Reporting and Recordkeeping forms. The data collected on these forms are crucial to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

BEA uses data collected on these forms to prepare estimates of the employee compensation component of national income and state personal income. Specifically, data on the number of employee injuries and deaths from forms F6180.55 and F6180.55a, Railroad Injury and Illness Summary, are used to prepare estimates of workers' compensation for the railroad industry. These same data by state are used to prepare estimates of workers' compensation for the railroad industry by state. Items used by BEA are listed in the Attachment.

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 from the Accident/Incident Reporting Forms Used by BEA

Items Used	Forms Used
 State Alphabetic Code Railroad Worker Hours Reported Casualties 	Form FRA F6180.55: Railroad Injury and Illness Summary
 Accident/Injury Number State Number of Days Away From Work Number of Days Restricted 	Form FRA F6180.55a: Railroad Injury and Illness Summary (Continuation Sheet)