

May 16, 2014

Mr. Michael J. Magyar  
Acting Director, National Minerals Information Center  
U.S. Geological Survey  
988 National Center  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive  
Reston, VA 20192

RE: *Federal Register* notice of April 9, 2014, for the USGS Ferrous Metals Surveys (OMB Number: 1028-0068)

Dear Mr. Magyar:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the U.S. Geological Survey on the Ferrous Metals Surveys forms. The data collected on these forms are an important data source for key components of BEA's economic statistics. BEA uses information collected on these forms to prepare annual estimates of gross domestic product (GDP), GDP by industry, and GDP by state. The attached table shows how items on the survey forms are used by BEA.

Specifically, BEA uses data on the production of iron and steel scrap to estimate sales of equipment scrap in the private equipment and software component of the GDP, and uses production and valuation information to derive nominal and real gross output and state GDP for the metal mining sector of the economy.

Please keep BEA informed about any modifications to the 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](mailto: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**  
**BEA Uses of the Ferrous Metals Surveys Items**

<b>Form Title</b>	<b>Form Number</b>	<b>Items Used</b>	<b>BEA Uses</b>
Ferroalloys Manganese Ore and Products Specialty Ferroalloys Iron Ore (less than 5% manganese) Rhenium Chromite Ores and Chromium Prod Cobalt Molybdenum Ore and concentrate Tungsten ore and concentrate Iron and Steel Scrap & Pig Iron Nickel Ore	6-1056-A 6-1086-MA 9-4043-A 9-9044-A 9-4048-A 9-4063-M 9-4064-M 9-4077-A 9-4092-A 9-4116-MA 9-4139-A	Aggregate items on all forms	National Gross Domestic Product (GDP): private equipment and software (sales of equipment scrap) GDP by Industry: Metal Mining sector GDP by State: Mining, except oil and gas