

A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau

Federal construction is an important sector of our economy and must be measured on a regular basis. The U.S. Census Bureau surveys federal construction projects in the United States to estimate monthly federal activity. The statistics derived from this survey are used by builders, manufacturers, suppliers, financial institutions, governmental agencies, and others to anticipate changes in building activity. They also are used to compute an important component of the Nation's Gross Domestic Product. This survey has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and given an OMB approval number. This number appears in the upper right-hand corner of the form. If this number were not displayed, we could not conduct this survey or request your participation.

The enclosed "Construction Project Report," Form C-700(F), identifies and describes a project that was sampled from published sources for inclusion in this survey. To limit cost and respondent burden, we survey only a small sample of projects. Therefore, your cooperation in this voluntary survey is especially important.

We recognize that completing any questionnaire requires some work, and we try to reduce the reporting burden on our respondents. On the initial report, we ask for the start date, total cost estimates, and monthly figures on the value of work done from the start of construction through the previous month. It is particularly important that you give us your best estimate for Item 5c. We estimate that it will take approximately 30 minutes to provide this information. Thereafter, until completion, each month we ask for only a single figure on the value of work done in the previous month. If this number is not readily available from your records, your best estimate is acceptable. We estimate that this will require 10 minutes of your time each month. If you have any comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of this survey, including suggestions for reducing the burden, send them to Paperwork Project 0607-0153 (Form C-700(F)), U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, AMSD-3K138, Washington, DC 20233. You may e-mail comments to Paperwork@census.gov; use "Paperwork Project 0607-0153" as the subject.

You may submit your survey by mail or fax (1-800-845-8245) within 7 days, even if the project has not started.

To assist you further in your reporting, you may now submit your data via the Internet. The enclosed Form C-700(F) displays the User ID and Password that you need to access the questionnaire via the Internet at **econhelp.census.gov/cprs**

If you have any questions, call our toll-free number (1–800–845–8246) Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Eastern Time). A supervisor may monitor the call to ensure accurate and courteous service. For your information and use, already published construction spending data are available online at **www.census.gov/constructionspending**

The United States Code, Title 13, authorizes this survey, provides for voluntary responses, and provides an exception to confidentiality for public records.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Enclosure