

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Census Bureau****Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Household Pulse Survey**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the potential for extending data collection for the Household Pulse Survey During COVID-19 Epidemic. The Household Pulse Survey was launched on April 23, 2020 with approval from the Office of Management and Budget to continue data collection through July 31, 2020 (OMB No. 0607-1013). The Department of Commerce may determine it prudent to continue the Household Pulse Survey after July 31, 2020. This notice serves to inform the public about this possible continuance.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments regarding the continued Household Pulse Survey information collection must be received on or before August 3, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Cassandra Logan, Survey Director, U.S. Census Bureau, by email to [Cassandra.Logan@census.gov](mailto:Cassandra.Logan@census.gov) or [PRAComments@doc.gov](mailto:PRAComments@doc.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 0607-1013 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Cassandra Logan, Survey Director, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, HQ-7H157, Washington, DC 20233, (301) 763-1087, and [Cassandra.Logan@census.gov](mailto:Cassandra.Logan@census.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Abstract**

The Census Bureau has developed the Household Pulse Survey as an experimental endeavor in cooperation with five other federal agencies. The survey is designed to produce near real-time data in a time of urgent and acute need. Changes in the measures over

time will provide insight into individuals' experiences on social and economic dimensions during the period of the Covid-19 pandemic. This survey, conducted under the auspices of the Census Bureau's Experimental Data Series (<https://www.census.gov/data/experimental-data-products.html>), is designed to supplement the federal statistical system's traditional benchmark data products with a new data source that provides relevant and timely information based on a high quality sample frame, data integration, and cooperative expertise.

Question domains contributed by the Census Bureau (Census), Economic Research Service (ERS), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), and the Department of Housing (HUD) seek to measure employment status, spending, food security, housing, health, and education disruptions. Many of the questions that will be asked on this survey have been fielded on other surveys in the past. However, some of the questions are new, designed to explore potential impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic response.

**II. Method of Collection**

The Census Bureau will conduct this information collection online using Qualtrics as the data collection platform. Qualtrics currently is used at the Census Bureau for research and development surveys and provides the necessary ability to deploy the Household Pulse Survey quickly and securely. It operates in the Gov Cloud, is FedRAMP authorized at the moderate level, and has an Authority to Operate from the Census Bureau to collect personally identifiable and Title-protected data.

The Census Bureau will sample approximately 2,159,000 housing units, with an additional approximately 1,100,000 housing units each subsequent week of data collection. The survey will be administered over the course of 24 weeks starting April 23, 2020. Households will be contacted via email and asked to complete approximately 50 questions focused on employment, spending, food security, housing, health and educational disruption. Prior to production the survey was estimated to take 20 minutes; the actual time for survey participants to complete the survey now that it is in production is approximately 11 minutes.

Weekly survey estimates will be produced by weighting the results to various demographic controls from auxiliary sources like the Census Bureau

official population estimates and the American Community Survey. Weekly source and accuracy documentation will provide details about the methods and quality of the survey estimates.

**III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 0607-1013.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals and households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* The total number of respondents is estimated at 93,400 per week (a reduction in the initial estimate of 108,000) for 24 weeks (an extension from the 12 weeks initially planned) for a total estimate of 2,241,600 respondents.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 11 minutes (actual time in production; initial estimate was 20 minutes).

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 410,960.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 182 and 196.

**IV. Request for Comments**

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we

cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of Industry and Security

#### Notice of Request for Public Comments on Section 232 National Security Investigation of Imports of Vanadium

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Industry and Security, Office of Technology Evaluation, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** On May 28, 2020, in response to a petition, the Secretary of Commerce (the “Secretary”) initiated an investigation to determine the effects on the national security from imports of vanadium. This investigation has been initiated under section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, as amended.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments, data, analyses, or other information pertinent to the investigation to the Department of Commerce’s (the “Department”) Bureau of Industry and Security by July 20, 2020. Rebuttal comments will be due by August 17, 2020. While the Department is interested in any information related to this investigation that the public can provide, this notice identifies particular issues of significance.

**DATES:** The due date for filing comments is July 20, 2020. The due date for rebuttal comments is August 17, 2020. Rebuttal comments may only address issues raised in comments filed on or before July 20, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** *Submissions:* All written comments on the notice must be addressed to Section 232 Vanadium Investigation and filed through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. To submit comments via <http://www.regulations.gov>, enter docket number BIS-2020-0002 on the home page and click “search.” The site will provide a search results page listing all documents associated with this docket. Find a reference to this notice and click on the link entitled “Comment Now!” (For further information on using <http://www.regulations.gov>, please consult the

resources provided on the website by clicking on “How to Use This Site.”)

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Industrial Studies Division, Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-5481, [Vanadium232@bis.doc.gov](mailto:Vanadium232@bis.doc.gov). Unless otherwise protected by law, any information received from the public during the course of this investigation may be made publicly available. For more information about the section 232 program, including the regulations and the text of previous investigations, please see [www.bis.doc.gov/232](http://www.bis.doc.gov/232).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On May 28, 2020, in response to a petition, the Secretary initiated an investigation under section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1862), to determine the effects on the national security from imports of vanadium. If the Secretary finds that vanadium is being imported into the United States in such quantities or under such circumstances as to threaten to impair the national security, the Secretary shall so advise the President in his report on the findings of the investigation.

##### Written Comments

This investigation is being undertaken in accordance with part 705 of the National Security Industrial Base Regulations (15 CFR parts 700 to 709) (“NSIBR”). Interested parties are invited to submit written comments, data, analyses, or information pertinent to this investigation to the Department’s Office of Technology Evaluation no later than July 20, 2020. Rebuttal comments submitted in response to issues raised in comments received on or before July 20, 2020 may be filed no later than August 17, 2020.

The Department is particularly interested in comments and information directed to the criteria listed in § 705.4 of the NSIBR as they affect national security, including the following:

- (i) Quantity of or other circumstances related to the importation of vanadium;
- (ii) Domestic production and productive capacity needed for vanadium to meet projected national defense requirements;
- (iii) Existing and anticipated availability of human resources, products, raw materials, production equipment, and facilities to produce vanadium;
- (iv) Growth requirements of the vanadium industry to meet national defense requirements and/or requirements for supplies and services

necessary to assure such growth including investment, exploration, and development;

(v) The impact of foreign competition on the economic welfare of the vanadium industry;

(vi) The displacement of any domestic vanadium production causing substantial unemployment, decrease in the revenues of government, loss of investment or specialized skills and productive capacity, or other serious effects;

(vii) Relevant factors that are causing or will cause a weakening of our national economy; and

(viii) Any other relevant factors, including the use and importance of vanadium in critical infrastructure sectors identified in Presidential Policy Directive 21 (Feb. 12, 2013) (for a listing of those sectors see <https://www.dhs.gov/cisa/critical-infrastructure-sectors>).

#### Requirements for Written Comments

The <http://www.regulations.gov> website allows users to provide comments by filling in a “Type Comment” field, or by attaching a document using an “Upload File” field. The Department prefers that comments be provided in an attached document. The Department prefers submissions in Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf). If the submission is in an application format other than those two, please indicate the name of the application in the “Type Comment” field. Please do not attach separate cover letters to electronic submissions; rather, include any information that might appear in a cover letter in the comments themselves. Similarly, to the extent possible please include any exhibits, annexes, or other attachments in the same file as part of the submission itself rather than in separate files. Comments will be placed in the docket and open to public inspection, except information determined to be confidential as set forth in § 705.6 of the NSIBR. Comments may be viewed on <http://www.regulations.gov> by entering docket number BIS-2020-0002 in the search field on the home page.

Material submitted by members of the public that is properly marked business confidential information and accepted as such by the Department will be exempted from public disclosure as set forth in § 705.6 of the NSIBR. Anyone submitting business confidential information should clearly identify the business confidential portion at the time of submission, file a statement justifying nondisclosure and referring to the specific legal authority claimed, and provide a non-confidential submission