

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)**

**PROPOSAL NO. 10 OF 2015**

**BY**

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**ENERGY, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT SURVEY**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information for the purpose of providing information on the consumption and environmental management of energy and water resources across Australian industries.

The information will be collected:

- every three years from September 2015;
- from a sample of approximately 20,000 businesses/organisations;
- by electronic forms. Administrative data will be used to supplement the directly collected estimates; and
- across Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- energy and water usage and expenditure;
- environmental management activities; and
- electricity generated by business/organisation.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of the Australian Environment Accounts. Results from the survey will be used to assist in understanding the use of energy and water products in Australian businesses, and will also be used to provide a time series view.

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available in July 2016.

The survey has been developed in consultation with the Department of Industry, which has provided funding for the survey. The principal users of the information, in addition to the Department of Industry, will be:

- Government research organisations; and
- Federal and State Governments.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden consistent with the Government's Regulator Performance Framework, the ABS:

- has considered what existing information is available;
- has consulted with industry bodies & businesses;
- has worked in conjunction with the Clean Energy Regulator to source administrative data collected under the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act, 2007*, which will be used to partially substitute directly collected estimates for overlap businesses/organisations;
- has field tested to ensure data is readily available; and
- will be required to clear the collection through the Statistical Clearing House.

This collection was last conducted in 2011/12 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal no. 12 of 2012.

Christine Barron  
Acting Deputy Australian Statistician

September 2015