

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

PROPOSAL NO. 12 OF 2012

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

ENERGY, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT SURVEY 2011-12

The Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to conduct a survey to collect information on the usage of energy and water by businesses/organisations, together with information on environmental management activities. The survey will be conducted from September 2012, for the 2011-12 financial year.

The survey will be conducted by mail from a sample of approximately 20,000 businesses/organisations nationally. Information collected will include:

- volumes of water received and self-sourced;
- electricity consumed and generated;
- expenses, including capital expenditure, relevant to water and energy products; and
- environmental management activities undertaken (and associated motivating factors and barriers to implementation).

The survey has been developed in consultation with relevant federal, state and local government departments, major industry representative bodies and principal users including the:

- Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education;
- Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency;
- Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities;
- Federal, state and territory treasury departments; and
- State and territory energy and water regulatory authorities and sustainability management agencies.

The data gathered from the survey will be used in the compilation of the Australian Bureau of Statistics publications:

- *Environmental and Energy Management, Australia*(cat. no. 4660.0);
- *Energy Account, Australia*(cat. no. 4604.0);
- *Energy Consumption and Electricity Generation, Australia*(cat. no. 4664.0); and
- *Water Account, Australia*(cat. no. 4610.0).

Analysis from the survey will assist in understanding the nature of energy and water use in the Australian economy in both physical (i.e. volume) and monetary terms, and will also be used for planning, economic and performance analyses.

The questions have been extensively field tested to ensure that the required data are readily available and that provider load has been minimised. No significant adverse respondent reaction is expected.

A survey on these topics was last conducted for the 2008-09 financial year.

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

August 2012