

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

**PROPOSAL NO. 21 OF 2013**

**BY**

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**SURVEY OF MOTOR VEHICLE USE**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to conduct a Survey of Motor Vehicle Use for the period 1 November 2013 to 31 October 2014. The survey will be conducted over three four-month periods.

The survey will be conducted by mail and e-forms from a total sample of 16,000 registered private and commercial vehicles nationally. A new sample will be selected each reference period.

Information will be collected on a range of indicators including:

- make, model and other characteristics of the vehicle;
- type of fuel used and average fuel consumption;
- distance travelled by region and purpose;
- type of freight and loads carried;
- trailer use; and
- driver characteristics including age, sex and age when first obtained specified driver's licence.

The primary purpose of the Survey of Motor Vehicle Use is to:

- assist the understanding and processing of the allocation of funds for road development;
- the design and construction of highways;
- modelling Australia's transport industry at Australia, state and regional levels;
- regulation of road transport operators;
- accident exposure; and
- energy use analysis.

Data also provides the broad context for project evaluation and measurement of growth rates in road use, mobility and traffic congestion. Other uses include information to assist with decisions on road user charges, predicting likely future vehicle use and road transport demand and assessing future road infrastructure investment needs.

The principal users of the survey will be:

- The National Transport Commission; and
- Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics.

The survey was extensively field tested to ensure that the required data are readily available and that provider load has been minimised. There has been a high level of respondent cooperation and no significant adverse respondent reaction is expected.

Results from the survey are expected to be released in late 2015.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics expects to conduct the survey biennially on a continuing basis.

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