

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

**PROPOSAL NO. 8 OF 2019  
BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS SURVEY**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information from Australian businesses/organisations for the purpose of producing a set of environmental data measures.

The information will be collected:

- from September 2019 on an annual basis, every two out of three years (as a more extensive benchmark survey is conducted in the third year);
- from a sample of approximately 4,500 businesses/organisations across Australia; and
- by self-enumeration, primarily using electronic forms.

Information will be collected on a range of measures including:

- energy consumption and expenditure;
- water consumption and expenditure; and
- waste generation, recycling and expenditure.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation/analysis of the Australian Energy, Water and Waste Accounts.

The principal users of the information the ABS produces will be:

- Department of the Environment and Energy to assist with policy formulation and monitoring.

Results from the survey will be used to assist in understanding Australian business use of key energy products and water resources over time, as well as waste generation and use of waste management services.

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 existing available information;
- consulted with the Department of the Environment and Energy; and
- field tested to ensure data is readily available.

This collection was last conducted in respect to 2016-17 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal No. 24 of 2016.

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