

September 29, 2006

Information Collection Comments Chief Counsel's Office Office of Thrift Supervision 1700 G Street, NW Washington, DC 20552

RE: Federal Register notice of July 31, 2006, on the Office of Thrift Supervision Thrift

Financial Report (OMB No: 1550-0023)

Dear Sir:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the Office of Thrift Supervision on the Thrift Financial Report. The data collected on these forms are crucial to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

Information from these forms is used in preparing the national income and product accounts (NIPA) and gross state product (GSP). A table showing the specific items used by BEA is attached below.

The proposed changes to the instructions for the interest lines (SO141, SO160, and SO171) should not impact our estimates as long as these changes are accompanied by the additional questions (SO142, SO162, and SO172). The additional questions should provide the data needed to keep the time series consistent.

Please keep BEA informed about any modifications to these forms. We are particularly interested in any modifications proposed during the forms approval process that would substantially affect our use of these data. For additional information, please contact Ruth Bramblett, Source Data Coordinator, on 202-606-9653 or by e-mail at Ruth.Bramblett@bea.gov. If you should need assistance in justifying these forms to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Fixler Chief Statistician

Attachment