

D.C. 20555: Attention: Director, Division of Licensing.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 4th day of May 1982.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Steven A. Varga,

Chief, Operating Reactors Branch No. 1, Division of Licensing.

[FR Doc. 82-13487 Filed 5-17-82; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

New Statistical Standard on Comparability of Statistics on Business Size

AGENCY: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB.

ACTION: Notice of adoption of the new statistical standard entitled, Comparability of Statistics on Business Size.

SUMMARY: The new statistical standard provides common size of business categories to be followed by statistical agencies in their tabulations of business size data. The standard was formulated as part of a Government-wide effort to assist the Small Business Administration in developing a small business data base. The uniform size categories will enhance the use of business size data for economic analysis and policymaking. The standard was endorsed in the President's March 1982 report on small business. This is the first Government-wide standardization of business size statistical data.

A draft standard was published in the December 2, 1980 Federal Register and the December 1980 Statistical Reporter for public comment. There were no objections to adopting the standard. A new item was added to the draft which recommends the provision of information on the average firm size within each category; such information is now published by the statistical agencies and presents no problem in the data compilation.

Issues in Developing the Business Size Standard

In developing the standard, special attention was given to balancing the considerations of which classifications are most relevant for analysis and policymaking, easy to understand, and do not diverge in a major way from existing size categories. Also, while the interest for analyses of small business is in businesses at the lower end of the size spectrum, it is necessary to trace developments in firms of a wide range of size categories in order to better

understand the relationship of "small business" to the rest of the economy.

The employment, revenues, and assets size variables are based on numerical criteria only. They do not include descriptive terminology such as "small," "medium" or "large." Such nomenclature is a qualitative assessment which may vary with the use of the data, and is best left to users to apply as they see fit.

The standard provides for Federal agencies to use the statistical size categories for administering programs in the section on "Use for Federal Nonstatistical Purposes." It states that they shall be used * * * "only if the responsible Secretary (Administrator) has first determined that the use of such size categories is appropriate to the implementation of the program's objectives." In addition, if they are used in the operative text of a law or regulation, an example of recommended language to accompany their use is given to assure sufficient flexibility.

The new standard is published below.

Christopher DeMuth,

Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

Statistical Standard: Comparability of Statistics on Business Size

The purpose of this directive is to provide a standard means of comparing business size series prepared by various Federal agencies. The Statistical Business Size Categories in the table below are to be used to classify reporting businesses by employment (number of employees), revenues (sales, receipts, shipments, etc.), or assets. Tabulations based on these categories shall be accompanied by precise definitions of the variables used to measure size (i.e., employment, revenues, or assets) and of the type of reporting unit tabulated (e.g., establishments, enterprises, companies, taxpaying units). Such definitions shall include adequate detail to allow comparisons with other definitions commonly used by Federal agencies.

1. *Combining or Partitioning Categories.* At the discretion of the agency which controls the data, adjacent size categories may be combined and/or the size scale may be truncated in published tabulations. Justification for such actions includes factors as the limited scope of the data, the need to assure the confidentiality of individual response, or very large sampling variability at the recommended level of detail. For example, tabulations of small businesses often truncate the upper end of the scale of size categories. The

reasons for such actions shall be noted in the affected publication.

Whenever data are published that combine size categories, the Agency which controls the data shall maintain unpublished estimates or internal documentation sufficient to allow reasonable retrospective estimates of the unpublished detail. However, if categories are combined to assure confidentiality of individual responses, the unpublished estimates or agency documentation must be maintained in a form which is consistent with the confidentiality objective and the agency's authority to protect information from disclosure.

STATISTICAL BUSINESS SIZE CATEGORIES EMPLOYMENT

(Number of employees)

0	(none)	
1	under	5
5	under	10
10	under	20
20	under	50
50	under	100
100	under	250
250	under	500
500	under	1,000
1,000	under	2,500
2,500	under	5,000
5,000	under	10,000
10,000	or more	

REVENUES OR ASSETS

	under	\$25,000.
\$25,000	Under	\$50,000.
\$50,000	Under	\$100,000.
\$100,000	Under	\$250,000.
\$250,000	Under	\$500,000.
\$500,000	Under	\$1 million.
\$1 million	Under	\$2.5 million.
\$2.5 million	Under	\$5 million.
\$5 million	Under	\$10 million.
\$10 million	Under	\$25 million.
\$25 million	Under	\$50 million.
\$50 million	Under	\$100 million.
\$100 million	Under	\$250 million.
\$250 million	Under	\$500 million.
\$500 million	Under	\$1 billion.
\$1 billion	Under	\$2.5 billion.
\$2.5 billion	Under	\$5 billion.
\$5 billion	or more	

An agency may also define additional partitions within the standard tables to meet particular analytical needs. These partitions, however, must be in addition to and not in lieu of the standard categories, i.e., they must not prevent summing to the standard categories.

The largest size categories in the standard tables were selected to accommodate current (1980) uses. If it becomes useful to define additional (larger) categories, they should be defined in a manner consistent with the pattern established in the standard tables (e.g., 10,000 under 25,000 employees or \$5 billion under \$10 billion revenues).

2. Average Size Within Categories.

The average size of firms within a size category may range from the lower to the upper end of the category. Knowledge of the average size provides additional information for analyzing patterns and trends in firm size. Therefore, it is recommended that statistical tabulations of business size data include the average size of firms in each category or information on the number of firms in each category that would enable the user to calculate the average size.

3. Effect on Data Collection Activities.

The requirement to use Statistical Business Size Categories will often impact the planning of data collection activities. The size categories should be considered in defining stratum boundaries and in choosing cutoffs to limit reporting burden or for other purposes. Data collection plans which unnecessarily impede or encumber analyses based on the standard size categories should be avoided.

4. Transition to New Size Categories.

Data tabulations that are presented in the new size categories for the first time shall be accompanied by overlapping data in the old categories for the same period, or some other means of bridging the old and new categories. This will enable users to link the historical data in the transition period and thus minimize the effect on the continuity of the series.

5. Use for Federal Nonstatistical Purposes. The Statistical Business Size Categories shall be used in the administration of any regulatory, administrative, or tax program only if the responsible Secretary (Administrator) has first determined that the use of such size categories is appropriate to the implementation of the program's objectives.

If the term, "Statistical Business Size Categories" is to be used in the operative text of a law or regulation, language similar to the following should be used to assure sufficient flexibility: "Business size categories shall mean the Statistical Business Size Categories as defined by the Office of Management and Budget subject to such modifications with respect to individual businesses or groups of businesses as the Secretary (administrator) may determine to be appropriate for the purpose of this Act (regulation)".

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PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC POLICY ADVISORY BOARD**Meeting**

May 14, 1982.

The President's Economic Policy Advisory Board will meet on May 20, 1982, at the White House, Washington, D.C. from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Unexpected circumstances preclude the customary 15 days advance notice for such a meeting.

The purpose of the meeting is to review and discuss:

(a) Economic Outlook and Financial Market Developments.

(b) International Economic Intelligence Outlook.

All agenda items concern matters listed in section 552b(c) of Title 5, United States Code, specifically subparagraphs (1), (4), (8), and (9) thereof, and will be closed to the public.

For further information, please contact the Office of Policy Development, the White House, at (202) 456-6515.

Edwin L. Harper,

Assistant to the President for Policy Development.

IFR Doc. 82-13687 Filed 5-17-82; 10:34 am

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SYNTHETIC FUELS CORPORATION**Interim Policy on Standards of Conduct**

ENTITY: Synthetic Fuels Corporation.

ACTION: Publication of interim policy on standards of conduct.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes and invites public comment on an Interim Policy on Standards of Conduct implemented by the U.S. Synthetic Fuels Corporation to carry out the requirements of Sections 118(a) and 118(d) of the United States Synthetic Fuels Corporation Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-294 relating to financial disclosure and post-employment restrictions applicable to directors, officers and employees of the Corporation, and for other purposes.

PERSON TO CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION: Owen J. Malone, U.S. Synthetic Fuels Corporation, Office of General Counsel, 1900 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20586, (202) 553-4230.

Interim Policy on Standards of Conduct**To All Interested Parties**

The United States Synthetic Fuels Corporation ("Corporation") announces an interim policy on standards of conduct applicable to directors, officers, and employees of the Corporation.

The responsibility for these matters will be vested primarily in the Corporation's Ethics Officer, Mr. Owen J. Malone, Office of General Counsel, United States Synthetic Fuels Corporation, Suite 540, 1900 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20586.

It is contemplated that the Corporation's Board of Directors will conduct a further review of the Interim Policy in light of comments received following this publication.

Comments will only be accepted in writing through June 15, 1982, and should be directed to the Corporation's Office of General Counsel. For further information regarding this interim policy or the comment period, contact Owen J. Malone: telephone (202) 653-4230.

Interim Policy—Standards of Conduct

April 27, 1982.

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