

8. What is the grade structure and how many super grades—quota and non-quota—are involved?

The professional employees range from GS-7 through GS-17. Subprofessional and clerical employees are grades GS-1 through GS-13. There are two bureaus involved, each staffed with one GS-17 and one GS-16. (All four are within the quota.)

9. What capital equipment, such as ADP, if any, do you rely upon to fulfill this program?

Autos are leased from GSA. ADP equipment is centralized under general management and administration.

10. Do you expect the expenditures or the benefits of the program to grow appreciably in the future?

Barring any unforeseen developments, we do not expect the expenditures to grow appreciably in the near future. The program has been beneficial to the Commission and to the general public for many years. We anticipate continued growth in the benefits in light of the increasing complexity of economic issues, in general, and in the transportation industry, in particular. Transportation is one of the largest industries in our national economy, encompassing approximately one-sixth of our gross national product.

11. At what level are the personnel responsible for the various parts of the program coordinated to determine if the program as a whole is being efficiently carried out?

Director, Bureau of Accounts.

Director, Bureau of Economics.

12. Is there a continual program review within the agency, other than the annual budgetary review, to determine more effective and efficient ways to achieve these program objectives?

At the activity level, there is a continuous program review of the work production and processes by the Bureau Directors, the responsible section chiefs, and field program directors. The Bureau of Accounts operates an internal inspection plan throughout its field offices to improve the quality of the output. The operation of all the Commission's programs are included in the Commission's intensive quarterly program evaluation, which is conducted by the managing director's office.

13. To your knowledge, does this program duplicate or parallel work being done by any other agency?

No.

14. Is your organizational structure such that the program is being carried out most efficiently and effectively?

The organizational structure is subject to continuing review to assure flexibility and responsiveness to the Commission need. No change from the present structure appears to be needed at this time.

15. Are there any outstanding GAO reports on this program? If so, what is the status of the GAO recommendations the report contains?

No.

16. What significant problems, if any, are you facing in accomplishing the program objectives?

Budgetary limitations in our vital programs. (See 19 below.)

17. Do you administer any grants, loans, or other disbursed funds related to this program? If so, is the size of your administrative staff commensurate with the magnitude of the outlays?

No.

18. If your appropriations were reduced, how would you absorb the cut—by an overall reduction, or by cutting or curtailing certain activities?

The decision as to how the Commission would absorb any reductions in appropriations is one made by the Commission. This program would, of course, be guided by the approach decided upon in applying budgetary cuts.

19. If additional funds were available, what would you do with the new money?

We would employ additional engineers for our valuation program and auditors for examination of accounts and records of the regulated industry, and the accounting examination of the financial reports filed by the industry. We also would recruit personnel for needed economic, mathematical, and statistical analyses.