



## Industrial Energy Consumers of America

*The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers*

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June 23, 2021

The Honorable Stephen Nalley  
Acting Administrator and Deputy Administrator  
U.S. Energy Information Administration  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Acting Administrator Nalley:

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), we request that the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) update the Manufacturing Energy Consumption Survey (MECS) every two years, instead of every four years. Because the survey is conducted only every four years, the most recent data is for 2018. And, it was not until February 2021 that the EIA released the first MECS's tables for 2018, which are now three years old. Timely manufacturing sector energy consumption data is very important, especially as we consider climate policy to reduce GHG emissions cost-effectively.

IECA is an association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.1 trillion in annual sales, over 4,200 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.8 million employees worldwide. Membership represents a diverse set of industries including chemicals, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, building products, automotive, brewing, independent oil refining, and cement.

One hundred percent of IECA's membership are large manufacturing companies. These companies rely upon, and highly value, EIA's data and information. The EIA data is used for corporate planning and decision-making. All of EIA's data is timely except for the MECS. And, MECS data is the only granular energy consumption information that is available on U.S. manufacturing anywhere in the federal government.

The manufacturing sector consumes 27 percent of U.S. natural gas, 25 percent of electricity, plus hydrocarbon feedstocks. We contribute \$2.3 trillion to the U.S. GDP and employ 12.8 million people. The manufacturing sector is very important to the economy and large consumers of energy, yet relatively few financial resources, are directed toward timely MECS data.

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We look forward to hearing from you and would be happy to meet and discuss this important matter.

Sincerely,

*Paul N. Cicio*

Paul N. Cicio  
President and CEO

cc: The Honorable Jennifer Granholm, U.S. Department of Energy