



6 February 2017

Ms. Yaprak Baltacioglu, Secretary of the Treasury Board of Canada
Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat
140 O'Connor Street
East Tower, 9th Floor
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0G5

yaprak.baltacioglu@tbs-sct.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0278

Dear Ms. Baltacioglu:

As you are likely aware, the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) provides independent analysis to the Senate and to the House of Commons about the nation's finances and the economy, the estimates of the government, and the cost of programs, legislation, and policies. In carrying out its mandate, the PBO often requires access to information held by government departments. When such information is needed, the PBO makes a request to the department holding the information.

The PBO is currently undertaking an analysis pursuant to section 79.2(b)(ii) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to undertake research on the nation's finances and economy at the request of the Standing Committee on Finance of the House of Commons.

In pursuing this work, the PBO would ask that, pursuant to section 79.3 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, you provide access to the following information:

- The time series and methodology used to derive the discount rates for the 2016-2036 period used to measure the present value of the accrued benefit obligations for pensions and other employee future benefits;
- The times series and methodology used to derive the interest rates for the 2016-2036 period used to measure the interest expense on pension and other employee future benefits;
- The time series and methodology used to derive the expected remaining service life assumptions of employees;
- The average remaining life expectancy for each of the wartime veteran plans of wartime veteran beneficiaries;

- Long-term general wage growth estimates; and
- The formula and data series used to calculate the 20-year weighted moving average of Government of Canada long-term bond rates.

We would appreciate that you provide access to this information by 6 March 2017. If we do not hear back from you by that date, we may consider your non-response a deemed refusal and, accordingly, report it to our named committees as instructed.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by 6 March 2017, whether or not you provide access to the requested information. The details contained in the reply form will assist us in preparing the PBO annual report.

Your response letter will be posted on the PBO website and, therefore, it should not be marked "confidential". Could you please attach the requested information separately. If this information is confidential, please clearly mark it as such, either on the electronic spreadsheet or the hard copy version.

Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Jason Jacques can be contacted directly at jason.jacques@parl.gc.ca, 613-853-1596.

I want to thank you for your assistance in this matter. Providing timely and effective analysis to the Senate and House of Commons is the PBO's primary objective. The degree to which this is possible depends, to a large extent, on free and timely access to quality information held by government departments. In doing so, you are assisting us in better serving the Senate, the House of Commons, and their members.

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Denis Fréchette
Parliamentary Budget Officer

c.c.: Katharine Rechico, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet,
Privy Council Office, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy

Attachment: Reply form for IR0278