DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Employment Standards Administration

Announcement of Public Briefings on Using the New H–2A Temporary Agricultural Labor Certification Program

AGENCIES: Employment and Training Administration; Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Office of Foreign Labor Certification (OFLC) in the Department of Labor’s Employment & Training Administration (ETA) has been re-engineering several of its programs, including the H–2A foreign agricultural worker labor certification program. The Wage and Hour Division (WHD) of the Employment Standards Administration (ESA) has been amending contractual obligations applicable to employers of workers subject to Section 218 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

The Department published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to redesign the H–2A agricultural labor certification program on February 13, 2008. The Department is currently reviewing public comments on this proposed rule and intends to publish final regulations before the end of the calendar year. In addition, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has published an NPRM to amend its H–2A regulations and intends to publish a final rule before the end of the calendar year as well.

Pursuant to the Department of Labor final rule, changes to information collection and regulatory requirements will affect the application forms. The H–2A program will no longer use the Form ETA 750 (OMB control number 1205–0015). Instead the program will utilize the new Form ETA 9142 (OMB control number 1205–0466). The new regulations also federalize the prevailing wage determination process in the H–2A program.

ETA and ESA are issuing this notice to announce that they will offer at least two public briefings to educate stakeholders, program users, and other interested members of the public on the re-engineered program and new form. Representatives from DHS will also be joining the Department of Labor at the briefings sessions. As currently planned, the two briefings will take place in late 2008 in Atlanta and Denver. This notice provides the public with locations, dates, and registration information regarding the briefings. However, these briefings are subject to change and/or cancellation without further notice in the Federal Register. In the event of a change participants who have registered will be notified.

Time and Dates
1. Friday, December 12, 2008, Atlanta, Georgia.
   Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
   Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting locations are:
1. Atlanta—Marriott Marquis, 265 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

To Register: To register for a briefing session please complete the registration process on-line, by visiting http://www.dtiassociates.com/oflcbriefings. For questions regarding the registration process, please call (703) 299–1623 (this is not a toll-free number). For further information and/or cancellations, please contact Brent Orrell at (202) 693–0700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information regarding ETA’s portion of the briefing, contact William Carlson, Ph.D., Administrator, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room C–4310, Washington, DC 20210; Telephone: (202) 693–3010 (this is not a toll-free number). For further information regarding ESA’s portion of the briefing, contact James Kessler, Farm Labor Team Leader, Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room S–3510, Washington, DC 20210; Telephone (202) 693–0070 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The registration information should be used by any member of the public planning to attend a briefing session. The agenda assumes publication of both Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security final rules.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 1st day of December 2008.

Brent R. Orrell,
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.

Alexander J. Passantino,
Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[DOCKET NO. OSHA–2008–0051]

The Cadmium in Construction Standard; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits comments concerning its proposal to extend OMB approval of the information collection requirements contained in the Cadmium in Construction Standard (29 CFR 1926.1127).

DATES: Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by February 3, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Electronically: You may submit comments and attachments electronically at http://www.regulations.gov, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.

Facsimile: If your comments, including attachments, are not longer than 10 pages, you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–1648.

Mail, hand delivery, express mail, messenger, or courier service: When using this method, you must submit three copies of your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA–2008–0051, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N–2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210.
Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. Deliveries (hand, express mail, messenger, and courier service) are accepted during the Department of Labor's and Docket Office's normal business hours, 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., e.t.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and OSHA docket number for the information collection request (OSHA–2008–0051). All comments, including any personal information you provide, are placed in the public docket without change, and may be made available online at http://www.regulations.gov. For further information on submitting comments see the “Public Participation” heading in the section of this notice titled SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

Docket: To read or download comments or other material in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov or the OSHA Docket Office at the address above. All documents in the docket (including this Federal Register notice) are listed in the http://www.regulations.gov index; however, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through the Web site. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. You may contact Jamaa Hill at the address below to obtain a copy of the ICR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA's estimate of the information collection burden is accurate. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the OSH Act) (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or appropriate for enforcement of the OSH Act or for developing information regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents (29 U.S.C. 657). The OSH Act also requires that OSHA obtain such information with minimum burden upon employers, especially those operating small businesses, and to reduce to the maximum extent feasible unnecessary duplication of efforts in obtaining information (29 U.S.C. 657).

The information collection requirements specified in the Cadmium in Construction Standard protect employees from the adverse health effects that may result from their exposure to cadmium. The major information collection requirements in the Standard include conducting employee exposure monitoring, notifying employees of their cadmium exposures, implementing a written compliance program, implementing medical surveillance of employees, providing examining physicians with specific information, ensuring that employees receive a copy of their medical surveillance results, maintaining employees’ exposure monitoring and medical surveillance records for specific periods, and providing access to these records by OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the employee who is the subject of the records, the employee’s representative, and other designated parties.

II. Special Issues for Comment

OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

• Whether the proposed information collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency’s functions, including whether the information is useful;
• The accuracy of OSHA’s estimate of the burden (time and costs) of the information collection requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
• The quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and
• Ways to minimize the burden on employers who may comply; for example, by using automated or other technological information collection and transmission techniques.

III. Proposed Actions

OSHA is requesting that OMB extend its approval of the information collection requirements contained in the Cadmium in Construction Standard (29 CFR 1926.1127). The Agency is proposing to retain its previous estimate of 39,331 employer burden hours; however, it is proposing to increase the currently approved capital costs from $1,657,460 to $1,775,457, a total increase of $117,997. The increase is due to the Agency increasing the cost to perform medical surveillance and exposure monitoring.

The Agency will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice and will include this summary in the request to OMB.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.
Title: Cadmium in Construction Standard (29 CFR 1926.1127).
OMB Number: 1218–0186.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profits; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.
Number of Respondents: 10,000.
Frequency: On occasion; quarterly; semi-annually; annually.
Average Time per Response: Varies from two minutes (.03 hour) for a secretary to compile and maintain training records to 1.5 hours to administer employee medical examinations.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 39,331.
Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance): $1,775,457

IV. Public Participation—Submission of Comments on This Notice and Internet Access to Comments and Submissions

You may submit comments in response to this document as follows: (1) Electronically at http://www.regulations.gov, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal; (2) by facsimile (FAX); or (3) by hard copy. All comments, attachments, and other material must identify the Agency name and the OSHA docket number for the ICR (Docket No. OSHA–2008–0051). You may supplement electronic submissions by uploading document files electronically. If you wish to mail additional materials in reference to an electronic or facsimile submission, you must submit them to the OSHA Docket Office (see the section of this notice titled ADDRESSES). The additional materials must clearly identify your electronic comments by your name, date, and the docket number so the Agency can attach them to your comments.

Because of security procedures, the use of regular mail may cause a significant delay in the receipt of comments. For information about security procedures concerning the delivery of materials by hand, express delivery, messenger, or courier service, please contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–2350 (TTY (877) 889–5577).

Comments and submissions are posted without change at http://
The Cadmium in General Industry Standard; Extension of the Office of Labor’s Order No. 5–2007 (72 FR 31159).

Signed at Washington, DC, this 26th day of November 2008.

Thomas M. Stohler,
Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. E8–28787 Filed 12–4–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–26–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA–2008–0052]

The Cadmium in General Industry Standard; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Request for public comment.


DATES: Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by February 3, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Electronically: You may submit comments and attachments electronically at http://www.regulations.gov, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.

Facsimile: If your comments, including attachments, are not longer than 10 pages, you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–1648.

Mail, hand delivery, express mail, messenger, or courier service: When using this method, you must submit three copies of your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA–2008–0052, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N–2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. Deliveries (hand, express mail, messenger, and courier service) are accepted during the Department of Labor’s and Docket Office’s normal business hours, 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., e.t.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and OSHA docket number for the ICR (OSHA–2008–0052). All comments, including any personal information you provide, are placed in the public docket without change, and may be made available online at http://www.regulations.gov. For further information on submitting comments see the “Public Participation” heading in the section of this notice titled SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

Docket: To read or download comments or other material in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov or the OSHA Docket Office at the address above. All documents in the docket (including this Federal Register notice) are listed in the http://www.regulations.gov index; however, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through the Web site. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. You may contact Jamaa Hill at the address below to obtain a copy of the Information Collection Request (ICR).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jamaa N. Hill or Todd Owen, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N–3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693–2222.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent (i.e., employer) burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA–95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA’s estimate of the information collection burden is accurate. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the Act) (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or appropriate for enforcement of the Act or for developing information regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents (29 U.S.C. 657).

The information collection requirements specified in the Cadmium in General Industry Standard protect employees from the adverse health effects that may result from occupational exposure to cadmium. The major information collection requirements in the Standard include conveying employee exposure monitoring, notifying employees of their cadmium exposures, implementing a written compliance program, implementing medical surveillance of employees, providing examining physicians with specific information, ensuring that employees receive a copy of their medical surveillance results, maintaining employees’ exposure monitoring and medical surveillance records for specific periods, and providing access to these records by OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the employee who is the subject of the records, the employee’s representative, and other designated parties.

II. Special Issues for Comment

OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

• Whether the proposed information collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency’s functions, including whether the information is useful;

• The accuracy of OSHA’s estimate of the burden (time and costs) of the information collection requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

• The quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and

• Ways to minimize the burden on employers who must comply; for example, by using automated or other technological information collection and transmission techniques.