

summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 13, 1998.

Gerri Fiala,

Administrator, Office of Policy and Research.

[FR Doc. 98-13258 Filed 5-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Representative of Miners

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed.

Currently, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection related to the Representative of Miners. MSHA is particularly interested in comments which:

- * Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- * Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- * Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- * Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or

other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the employee listed below in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

DATES: Submit comments on or before July 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Commenters are encouraged to send their comments on a computer disk, or via E-mail to psilvey@msha.gov, along with an original printed copy. Ms. Silvey can be reached at (703) 235-1910 (voice) or (703) 235-5551 (facsimile).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George M. Fesak, Director, Office of Program Evaluation and Information Resources, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 715, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Mr. Fesak can be reached at gfesak@msha.gov (Internet E-mail), (703) 235-8378 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, 30 U.S.C. 801, *et seq.*, (Mine Act) requires the Secretary of Labor to exercise many of his duties under the Act in cooperation with miners' representatives. The Act also establishes miners' rights which may be exercised through a representative. Title 30, CFR Part 40 contains procedures which a person or organization must follow in order to be designated as a representative of miners.

II. Current Actions

The information is used to identify the designated representative of miners of a specific mine. The Mine Act gives the miner or the representative of miners the right to accompany an MSHA inspector without any loss of pay.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Title: 30 CFR 40.3, 40.4, and 40.5, Representative of Miners.

OMB Number: 1219-0042.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions.

Cite/Reference/Form/etc.: 30 CFR 40.3, 40.4, 40.5.

Total Respondents: 350.

Frequency: On occasion.

Total Responses: 350.

Average Time Per Response: 1 hour.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: 175 hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 12, 1998.

George M. Fesak,

Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources.

[FR Doc. 98-13261 Filed 5-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-98-24]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Fire Brigades (Organizational Statement) (29 CFR 1910.156)

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA-95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection requirements contained in the standard on Fire Brigades (29 CFR 1910.156). The Agency is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 20, 1998.

ADDRESSEE: Comments are to be submitted to the Docket Office, Docket No. ICR-98-24, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. Telephone: (202) 219-7894. Written comments limited to 10 pages or less in length may also be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 219-5046.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theda Kenney, Directorate of Safety Standards Programs, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3605, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210, telephone: (202) 219-8061. A copy of the referenced information collection request is available for inspection and copying in the Docket Office and will be mailed to persons who request copies by telephoning Theda Kenney at (202) 219-8061, extension 100, or Barbara Bielaski at (202) 219-8076, extension 142. For electronic copies of the Information Collection Request on Fire Brigades (29 CFR 1910.156), contact OSHA's WebPage on the Internet at <http://www.osha.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the Act) authorizes the promulgation of such health and safety standards as are necessary or appropriate to provide safe or healthful employment and places of employment. The statute specifically authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or appropriate for the enforcement of the Act or for developing information regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents.

Fighting fires as a member of a fire brigade presents a significant risk of

harm to an employee. In fact, fire fighting continues to be one of the Nation's most hazardous occupations. To mitigate the risks of employees fighting fires, OSHA developed a standard for fire brigades in 1980. The Fire Brigade standard does not require the employer to organize a fire brigade. However, if the employer does decide to organize a fire brigade, the provisions of the standard must be met.

There are various types of fire brigades. Some fire brigades merely monitor and assist in evacuation, others perform incipient fire fighting, while others perform Interior structural fire fighting. The tasks, responsibility, training, and personal protective equipment needs differ according to the type of fire brigade organized at the workplace. Therefore, 29 CFR 1910.156, requires employers who have fire brigades to develop and maintain an organizational statement which defines the type of fire brigade being organized and describes the functions that the employer expects the fire brigade to perform.

II. Current Actions

This notice requests Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of the information collection requirements contained in the Fire Brigade standard.

Type of Review: Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.

Agency: U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Title: Fire Brigades (Organizational Statement) (29 CFR 1910.156).

OMB Number: 1218-0075.

Agency Number: Docket Number ICR-98-24.

Affected Public: State or local governments; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 1,670.

Frequency: Initially, On Occasion.

Average Time per Response: 5 minutes (0.8 hr.).

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 172.

Total Annualized Capital/Startup Costs: \$0.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 12th day of May 1998.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-13255 Filed 5-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-98-22]

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; OSHA Data Collection System (1218-0209)

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection request for the OSHA Data Collection System. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before July 20, 1998. The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology,