FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: S. Aromie Noe, Acting Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, at MSHA.information.collections@dol.gov (email); [202] 693–9440 (voice); or [202] 693–9441 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 103(h) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), 30 U.S.C. 813(h), authorizes the MSHA to collect information necessary to carry out its duty in protecting the safety and health of miners. Further, section 101(a) of the Mine Act, 30 U.S.C. 811(a), authorizes the Secretary of Labor (Secretary) to develop, promulgate, and revise as may be appropriate, improved mandatory health or safety standards for the protection of life and prevention of injuries in coal and metal and nonmetal mines.

Potentially gassy (explosive) conditions underground are largely controlled by the main fans. When accumulations of explosive gases, such as methane, are not swept from the mine by the main fans, they may reasonably be expected to contact an ignition source. The results of such contacts are usually disastrous, and multiple fatalities may be reasonably expected to occur. The standard contains significantly more stringent requirements for main fans in “gassy” mines than for main fans in other mines. Title 30 CFR 57.22204, which only applies to metal and nonmetal underground mines that are categorized as “gassy,” requires main fans to have pressure-recording systems. This standard also requires main fans to be inspected daily while operating if persons are underground and certification made of such inspections by signature and date. Certifications and pressure recordings must be retained for one year and made available to authorized representatives of the Secretary.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

MSHA is soliciting comments concerning the proposed information collection related to Main fan operation and inspection in I–A, II–A, III, and V–A mines. MSHA is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information has practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of MSHA’s estimate of the burden related to the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used in the estimate;
- Suggest methods to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the information collection 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 submission of responses.

Background documents related to this information collection request are available at https://regulations.gov and at DOL–MSHA located at 201 12th Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, VA 22202–5452. Questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION section of this notice.

III. Current Actions

This information collection request concerns provisions for main fan operation and inspection in I–A, II–A, III, and V–A mines. MSHA has updated the data with respect to the number of respondents, responses, burden hours, and burden costs supporting this information collection request from the previous information collection request.

Type of Review: Extension, without change, of a currently approved collection.

Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

OMB Number: 1219–0030.

Affected Public: Business or other-for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 6.

Frequency: On occasion.

Number of Responses: 5,940.

Annual Burden Hours: 2,046 hours.

Annual Respondent or Recordkeeper Cost: $6,000.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the proposed information collection request; they will become a matter of public record and will be available at https://www.reginfo.gov.

Song-ae Aromie Noe,
Certifying Officer.
The agency processes applications by a NRTL for initial recognition, or for expansion or renewal of this recognition, following requirements in Appendix A to 29 CFR 1910.7. This appendix requires that the agency publish two notices in the Federal Register in processing an application. In the first notice, OSHA announces the application and provides the preliminary finding and, in the second notice, the agency provides the final decision on the application. These notices set forth the NRTL’s scope of recognition or modifications of that scope. OSHA maintains an informational web page for each NRTL that details the scope of recognition. These pages are available from the agency’s website at http://www.osha.gov/dts/otpca/nrtl/index.html.

BACL submitted an application, dated July 20, 2017 (OSHA—2016–0022–0011),¹ to expand its NRTL scope of recognition to include seven additional test standards. OSHA performed a detailed analysis of the application packet and reviewed other pertinent information. OSHA did not perform any on-site reviews in relation to this application.

OSHA published the preliminary notice announcing BACL’s expansion application in the Federal Register on October 22, 2021 (86 FR 58694). The agency requested comments by November 8, 2022, but it received no comments in response this notice. OSHA now is proceeding with this final notice to grant expansion of BACL’s scope of recognition.

To obtain or review copies of all public documents pertaining to BACL’s application, go to www.regulations.gov or contact the Docket Office, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Docket No. OSHA–2016–0022 contains all materials in the record of the application.

Table 1—List of Appropriate Test Standards for Inclusion in BACL’s NRTL Scope of Recognition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test standard</th>
<th>Test standard title</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UL 153</td>
<td>Portable Electric Lamps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UL 935</td>
<td>Standard for Fluorescent-Lamp Ballasts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UL 1310</td>
<td>Standard for Class 2 Power Units.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UL 1598</td>
<td>Luminaires.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UL 1993</td>
<td>Self-Ballasted Lamps and Lamp Adapters.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OSHA’s recognition of any NRTL for a particular test standard is limited to equipment or materials for which OSHA standards require third-party testing and certification before using them in the workplace. Consequently, if a test standard also covers any products for which OSHA does not require such testing and certification, a NRTL’s scope of recognition does not include these products.

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) may approve the test standards listed above as American National Standards. However, for convenience, the use of the designation of the standards-developing organization for the standard as opposed to the ANSI designation may occur. Under the NRTL Program’s policy (see OSHA Instruction CPL 01–00–004, Chapter 2, Section VIII), only standards determined to be appropriate test standards may be approved for NRTL recognition. Any NRTL recognized for a particular test standard may use either the proprietary version of the test standard or the ANSI version of that standard. Contact ANSI to determine whether a test standard is currently ANSI-approved.

A. Conditions

In addition to those conditions already required by 29 CFR 1910.7, BACL must abide by the following conditions of the recognition:

1. BACL must inform OSHA as soon as possible, in writing, of any change of ownership, facilities, or key personnel, and of any major change in its operations as a NRTL, and provide details of the change(s);

2. BACL must meet all the terms of the recognition and comply with all OSHA policies pertaining to this recognition; and

3. BACL must continue to meet the requirements for recognition, including all previously published conditions on BACL’s scope of recognition, in all areas for which it has recognition.

Pursuant to the authority in 29 CFR 1910.7, OSHA hereby expands the scope of recognition of BACL, subject to the limitation and conditions specified above.

III. Authority and Signature

Douglas L. Parker, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, authorized the preparation of this notice. Accordingly, the agency is issuing this notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 657(g)(2), Secretary of Labor’s Order No. 8–2020 (85 FR 58393, Sept. 18, 2020), and 29 CFR 1910.7.

Signed at Washington, DC, on January 18, 2022.

Douglas L. Parker,
Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

¹OSHA notes that in the preliminary notice, it accidentally listed this document’s docket number as OSHA–2016–0022–0009.