DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
[Docket No. OSHA–2010–0026]

Mechanical Power Press Standard; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements

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

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits public comments concerning its proposal to extend the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) approval for the information collection requirements specified in its Mechanical Power Press Standard.

DATES: Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by April 15, 2024.

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.

Docket: To read or download comments or other material in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov. Documents in the docket 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 website. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection through the OSHA Docket Office. Contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–2350 (TTY (877) 889–5627) for assistance in locating docket submissions.

Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and OSHA docket number OSHA–2010–0026 for the Information Collection Request (ICR). OSHA will place all comments, including any personal information, in the public docket, which may be made available online. Therefore, OSHA cautions interested parties about submitting personal information such as social security numbers and birthdates.

For further information on submitting comments, see the “Public Participation” heading in the section of this notice titled SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Department of Labor, as part of the 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) (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, the collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA’s estimate of the information collection burden is accurate. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (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 effort in obtaining information (29 U.S.C. 657).

The following sections describe who is the affected public, the burden (time and costs) of the information collection requirements, the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; whether the proposed information collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the agency’s functions to protect workers, 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.

III. Proposed Actions

OSHA is requesting that OMB extend the approval of the information collection requirements contained in the Mechanical Power Press Standard. The agency is requesting that there is no change in burden hours in the information collection requirements of this standard. The costs are adjusted due to updated calculations.

OSHA will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice and will include this summary in the request to OMB to extend the approval of the information collection requirements.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title: Mechanical Power Press Standard.

OMB Control Number: 1218–0229.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profits.

Number of Respondents: 104,035.

Frequency of Responses: Monthly.

Total Responses: 62,421.

Average Time per Response: 20 minutes.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 20,807.

Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance): $0.

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; or (2) by facsimile (fax); if your comments, including attachments, are not longer than 10 pages you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–1648. All comments, attachments, and other material must identify the agency name and the OSHA docket number for the ICR (OSHA–2010–0026). You may supplement electronic submissions by uploading document files electronically.
Comments and submissions are posted without change at http://www.regulations.gov. Therefore, OSHA cautions commenters about submitting personal information such as social security numbers and dates of birth. Although all submissions are listed in the http://www.regulations.gov index, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download from this website. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. Information on using the http://www.regulations.gov website to submit comments and access the docket is available at the website’s “User Tips” link. Contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–2350, (TTY (877) 889–5627) for information about materials not available from the website, and for assistance in using the internet to locate docket submissions.

V. Authority and Signature
James S. Frederick, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this notice. The authority for this notice is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506 et seq.) and Secretary of Labor’s Order No. 8–2020 (85 FR 58393).

Signed at Washington, DC, on February 9, 2024.
James S. Frederick,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Update of Statistical Policy Directive No. 3: Compilation, Release, and Evaluation of Principal Federal Economic Indicators—Changing Timing of Public Comments by Employees of the Executive Branch

AGENCY: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

ACTION: Notice of adoption of a revised Statistical Policy Directive No. 3.

SUMMARY: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announces the adoption of a revised Statistical Policy Directive No. 3: Compilation, Release, and Evaluation of Principal Federal Economic Indicators (Directive No. 3). The procedures in Directive No. 3, published in 1985, were designed to ensure equitable, policy-neutral, and timely release and dissemination of Principal Federal Economic Indicators. The goals of Directive No. 3 remain sound; this Notice announces the adoption of procedures consistent with these goals, reflecting advances in communication technologies and methods. OMB has solely modified the provision, “employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time,” by replacing “one hour” with “thirty minutes.” This change reduces the delay after official release time before commentary from employees of the Executive Branch, while retaining a necessary time delay between policy-neutral release of the official statistics and subsequent Executive Branch interpretations of this statistical data.

DATES: Effective Date: The effective date of this Directive is February 19, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Please send correspondence about OMB’s decision to Dominic Mancini, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, or email Statistical_Directives@omb.eop.gov with the subject “More Info: Directive No. 3.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karin Orvis, Office of Management and Budget, telephone 202-395-5989, email Statistical_Directives@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Summary of the Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950 (31 U.S.C. 1104(d)) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3504(e)) (the PRA), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announces a change of one provision within Statistical Policy Directive No. 3: Compilation, Release, and Evaluation of Principal Federal Economic Indicators (50 FR 38932, Sept. 25, 1985) (Directive No. 3). In particular, OMB modifies the provision in Directive No. 3, “employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time,” by replacing “one hour” with “thirty minutes.”

Background: Directive No. 3’s purposes are “to preserve the time value” of the Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs), “strike a balance between timeliness and accuracy,” “prevent early access to information that may affect financial and commodity markets,” and “preserve the distinction between the policy-neutral release of data by statistical agencies and their interpretation by policy officials.” Directive No. 3 also provides for an periodic evaluation of each indicator. Directive No. 3 remains a robust, comprehensive source of guidance for Federal statistical agencies and recognized statistical units producing PFEIs. The government and private sector widely watch and heavily rely upon these statistical series as indicators of the current condition and direction of the economy.

The procedures in Directive No. 3, published in 1985, were designed to ensure equitable, policy-neutral, and timely release and dissemination of PFEIs. The goals of Directive No. 3 remain sound, and OMB has not changed them. In furtherance of these goals, OMB retains a minimum time period that Executive Branch employees must wait after the policy-neutral release of the data before Executive Branch employees can comment on those data. In April 2019, OMB published in the Federal Register a request for comments on a proposal to reduce the duration of the prohibition of commentary by employees of the Executive Branch following the PFEI release from one hour to something shorter, including the consideration of the option of having no delay at all (84 FR 14682, Apr. 11, 2019). OMB received sixteen in-scope comments in response to that Notice. All in-scope commenters strongly supported either a retention of the one-hour delay, or a delay of some duration, after official release time before employees of the Executive Branch could comment on the PFEI releases, with no commenters in support of removing the delay entirely.1

In August 2023, OMB published in the Federal Register a request for public comments on an updated proposal to reduce the duration of the prohibition of commentary by employees of the Executive Branch following the PFEI release from one hour to thirty minutes. OMB noted that it agreed with the previous comments on this issue submitted in 2019 and understood that maintaining some delay as part of Directive No. 3 continues to be important to maintain the bright line between the release of data and any commentary on such data by Executive Branch officials. OMB noted that it was considering this updated proposal because, while the delay is important to ensuring a bright line between the data release and the Executive Branch’s policy interpretation, since 1985 there have been many changes in the way the public communicates, as well as in how the relevant statistical agencies disseminate information. For example,

1 Public comments received in response to the April 2019 FRN are available at www.regulations.gov/document/OMB-2019-0001-0001/comment.