Agency Number: None.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profit entities.
Total Respondents: 9,982.
Total Annual Respondents: 119,784.
Average Time per Response: 1.5 hours.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: 179,676 hours.
Frequency: Monthly.
Total Monetized Burden Cost: $13,700,054.
Total Burden Costs to Federal government: $1,390,997.

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

Tina T. Williams,
Acting Deputy Director of OFCCP and Director of Policy & Program Development, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Howell by telephone at 202–693–6782, or by email at DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Labor’s Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) maintains a program designed to provide education and technical assistance to participants and beneficiaries as well as to employers, plan sponsors, and service providers related to their health and retirement plan benefits. EBSA assists participants in understanding their rights, responsibilities, and benefits under employee benefit law and intervenes informally on their behalf in obtaining the health and retirement benefits to which they may have been inappropriately denied, which can avert the necessity for a formal investigation or a civil action. EBSA maintains a toll-free telephone number through which inquirers can reach Benefits Advisors in ten Regional Offices. EBSA has also made a request for assistance form available on its website for those wishing to obtain assistance in this manner. Contact with EBSA is entirely voluntary.

The collection of information is an intake form for assistance requests from the public. This information includes the plan type, broad categories of problem type, contact information for responsible parties, and a mechanism for the inquirer to attach relevant documents. Summary data from the existing intake form has also been used, in accordance with section 513 of ERISA, to respond to requests for information regarding employee benefit plans from members of Congress and governmental oversight entities, and to inform the policy formulation process. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the Federal Register on August 25, 2023 (88 FR 58312).

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOL notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

Agency: DOL–EBSA.
Title of Collection: Request for Assistance from the Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration.
OMB Control Number: 1210–0146.
Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profits.
Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 14,991.
Total Estimated Number of Responses: 14,991.
Total Estimated Annual Time Burden: 7,496 hours.
Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: $0.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D))

Michael Howell,
Senior Paperwork Reduction Act Analyst.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[FR Doc. 2024–03659 Filed 2–22–24; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4510–29–P

[FR Doc. 2024–03659 Filed 2–22–24; 8:45 am]
ADDRESS:
Electronically: You may submit comments and attachments electronically at https://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 https://www.regulations.gov. Documents in the docket are listed in the https://www.regulations.gov index; however, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through the websites. 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–2011–0057) 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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 uses the information collected under each requirement, as well as how they use it. The purpose of these requirements is to reduce employees’ risk of death or serious injury while working in hazardous conditions due to cave-ins.

Paragraphs (b) and (c) of § 1926.652 (“Requirements for Protective Systems”; the “Standard”) contain paperwork requirements that impose burden hours or costs on employers. These paragraphs require employers to use protective systems to prevent cave-ins during excavation work; these systems include sloping the side of the trench, benching the soil away from the excavation, or using a trench shielding system (such as a trench box). The Standard specifies allowable configurations and slopes for excavations and provides appendices to assist employers in designing protective systems. However, paragraphs (b)(3) and (4) of the Standard permit employers to design sloping or benching systems based on tabulated data (Option 3), or to use a design approved by a registered professional engineer (Option 4).

Under Option 3, employers must provide the tabulated data in a written form that also identifies the registered professional engineer who approved the data and the parameters used to select the sloping or benching system drawn from the data, as well as the limitations of the data (including the magnitude and configuration of slopes determined to be safe). The document must also provide any explanatory information necessary to select the correct benchmark system based on the data. Option 2 requires employers to develop a written design approved by a registered professional engineer. The design information must include the magnitude and configuration of the slopes determined to be safe, and the identity of the registered professional engineer who approved the design.

Paragraph (c)(2)(iii) allows employers to use manufacturer’s tabulated data or to deviate from the data provided. The manufacturer’s tabulated data must be provided to the employer and the compliance officer upon request. These paragraphs require the information collected under Option 3 to be submitted in response to this notice and authorize information collection by OSHA.

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 to protect workers, including whether the information is useful;

• The quality, utility, and clarity of the information collection requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

• Whether 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, and transmission techniques.

III. Proposed Actions
OSHA is requesting that OMB extend the approval of the information collection requirements contained in the Excavations Standard. The agency is requesting an adjustment decrease in burden hours from 40,041 hours to 22,697 hours, a difference of 17,344 hours. This decrease is due to the number of apartment and nonresidential construction projects/sites from 5,720 to 3,243.

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: Excavations Standard (Design of Cave-in Protection Systems).
OMB Control Number: 1218–0137.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profits.
Number of Respondents: 1,144,081.
Number of Responses: 22,697.
Frequency of Responses: On occasion.
Average Time per Response: Varies.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: 22,697.
Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance): $430,152.

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 https://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 (Docket No. OSHA–2011–0057). You may supplement electronic submission by uploading document files electronically.

All submissions must be submitted electronically at https://www.regulations.gov, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.

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 15, 2024.

James S. Frederick,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 2024–03636 Filed 2–22–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–26–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA–2009–0045]

Powered Industrial Trucks 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 comments.

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits public comments concerning the proposal to extend the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) approval of the information collection requirements specified in the Powered Industrial Trucks Standard.

DATES: Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by April 23, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Electronically: You may submit comments and attachments electronically at https://www.regulations.gov. In the 'Comment' field, enter 'Powered Industrial Trucks Standard; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements' and click 'Submit Comment'.

All comments, attachments, and other material must identify the agency name and the OSHA docket number for the ICR (Docket No. OSHA–2009–0045) for this notice. You can also mail your comments, attachments, and other material to the OSHA Docket Office (Docket No. OSHA–2009–0045) at the address specified in ADDRESSES below. If you submit comments, attachments, and other material by mail, you must send them in a legible format, to the OSHA Docket Office (Docket No. OSHA–2009–0045) at the address specified in ADDRESSES below.

I. Background
The Department of Labor, as part of the continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent (i.e., employer) burden, announces 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 et seq.). 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 uses the information collected under each requirement, as well as how they use it.

The purpose of these requirements is to address truck design, construction, and modification, as well as certification of training and evaluation for truck operators.

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 to protect workers, including whether the information is useful;
- The accuracy of OSHA’s estimate of the burden (time and costs) of the