

Alternative suggestions, ideas and comments will be considered fully. When providing comments regarding this advance notice of proposed rulemaking, the respondent should provide the FSA with a complete description of the details of the alternative method or issue, along with supporting data.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on May 19, 1998.

Keith Kelly,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

10 CFR Part 835

[Docket No. EH-RM-96-835]

RIN 1901-AA59

Occupational Radiation Protection

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Proposed rule; Notice of Paperwork Reduction Act Submission and comment request.

SUMMARY: On December 23, 1996, the Department of Energy (DOE or Department) published a notice of proposed rulemaking to amend the Department's primary standards for occupational radiation protection during the conduct of DOE activities. This notice advises the public that DOE has submitted for review a Paperwork Reduction Act Submission for the proposed rule to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and invites interested persons to submit written comments and recommendations to OMB concerning the proposed collection of information.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed collections of information must be mailed by June 25, 1998 directly to the OMB desk officer at the address below. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, please advise the OMB Desk Officer of your intention to make a submission as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be contacted at telephone number (202) 395-3084.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to the Department of Energy Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20503. (Persons submitting comments to OMB

also are requested to send a copy to Dr. Joel Rabovsky, U.S. Department of Energy, EH-52, "EH-RM-96-835 Rulemaking," 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for copies of the Department's Paperwork Reduction Act Submission and other information should be directed to Dr. Joel Rabovsky, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Worker Protection Programs and Hazards Management, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, (301) 903-2135.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOE has submitted a Paperwork Reduction Act Submission for a proposed rule on occupational radiation protection to OMB for review under section 3507(d) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed rule was published in the **Federal Register** on December 23, 1996 (61 FR 67600). This notice invites interested persons to submit written comments and recommendations to OMB concerning the proposed collections of information described below. Comments should address: (1) whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DOE, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Department's burden estimates, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

OMB Approval Number: 1910-xxxx.

Title: Occupational Radiation Protection.

Abstract: Under section 161 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2201), DOE is authorized to adopt rules governing DOE activities undertaken in the performance of its functions. Part 835 of title 10 CFR establishes radiation protection limits and controls to protect DOE employees, contractor and subcontractor employees, and visiting workers who use DOE facilities from occupational exposure to radiation or radioactive materials. Part 835 contains the following information collection requirements, all of which would be modified by the Department's December 23, 1996, rulemaking proposal:

1. *Radiation Protection Program Submissions.* Part 835 requires contractors performing DOE activities to prepare and submit a radiation protection program (RPP) to DOE for

approval, and to submit updates of the RPP to DOE for approval. 10 CFR § 835.101.

2. *Recordkeeping requirements.* Part 835 requires contractors to keep individual monitoring records (§ 835.702); certain workplace monitoring records (§ 835.703); training and other administrative records (§ 835.704); records of release of materials and equipment from radiological areas (§ 835.1101); and records of planned special exposures to radiation (§ 835.204).

3. *Reporting requirements.* Part 835 requires contractors to provide radiation dose reports to monitored individuals and to report other information to individuals upon termination of employment and on other occasions. 10 CFR § 835.801.

Need and Uses: The information that part 835 requires DOE major facilities management contractors to produce, maintain and/or report are necessary to permit the Department to manage and oversee health and safety programs that control worker (i.e., DOE employees, contractor and sub-contractor employees, and visiting workers) exposure to radiation.

Frequency: (1) The initial RPP Submission is a one-time requirement; updates are required on occasion; (2) recordkeeping requirements include planned special exposure records from time to time, as well as individual and workplace monitoring records; (3) reporting of radiation doses to monitored individuals is required annually; other information is reported to individuals upon termination of employment and on other occasions.

Number of Respondents: 50. This number reflects the number of radiation protection programs for part 835 implemented to date.

Estimated Annual Burden: 50,000 hrs. This burden estimate consists of DOE's estimates of the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose information to or for DOE. In developing these burden estimates, DOE has estimated the total cost of complying with the information collection requirements in 10 CFR 835.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 8, 1998.

Peter N. Brush,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health.

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