

by selecting the "Tax Regs" option on the IRS Home Page, or by submitting comments directly to the IRS Internet site at <http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/prod/tax-reg/comments.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LaNita VanDyke of the Regulations Unit, Assistant Chief Counsel (Corporate), (202) 622-7180 (not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A notice of proposed rulemaking and notice of public hearing appearing in the **Federal Register** on Thursday, January 29, 1998 (63 FR 4408), announced that a public hearing with respect to proposed regulations relating to adjustments to a partner's basis in its partnership interest and a partnership's basis in its assets would be held on Wednesday, July 8, 1998, beginning at 10 a.m. in the IRS Auditorium, Internal Revenue Building, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington DC, and that requests to speak and outlines of oral comments should be received by Wednesday, June 24, 1998.

The date and the time of the public hearing have changed. The room number of the Washington, DC location has changed, and one remote teleconference site has been added.

The hearing will be held in room 3411 of the Internal Revenue Building, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The remote teleconference site is in room 5003 of the Federal Building, 5th Floor, 300 N. Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, California.

The public hearing will be begin at 1 p.m. (EDT); attendees will be admitted beyond the lobby of the Internal Revenue Building in Washington, DC after 12:30 p.m. The hearing time at the remote teleconference site in Los Angeles will be concurrent with the hearing in Washington, DC. (10 a.m. PDT).

Requests to speak and outlines of oral comments should be received by Thursday, August 27, 1998. All persons who have notified the Service by Thursday, August 27, 1998, of their desire to testify will be given the opportunity to do so. Requests should specify the site from which the speaker wishes to testify; if no specific site is named, the speaker will be scheduled to appear in Washington, DC. Requests to testify in Los Angeles should include a telephone number in case the Service needs to contact the speaker prior to the public hearing.

Due to limited seating capacity at the remote teleconference site, no more than 12 people may be accommodated at any one time in the teleconference room. Seating in the teleconference room will be made available based on the order of

presentations. IRS personnel will be available at the remote teleconference site to assist speakers in using the teleconference equipment.

The Service will prepare an agenda showing the scheduling of speakers and will make copies of the agenda available free of charge at the hearing. Testimony will begin with the speakers in Los Angeles, and will conclude with presentations by the speakers in Washington, DC.

Cynthia Grigsby,

Chief, Regulations Unit, Assistant Chief Counsel (Corporate).

[FR Doc. 98-20941 Filed 8-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

29 CFR Part 1915

Fire Protection for Shipyard Employment Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee; Meeting

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

ACTION: Fire Protection for Shipyard Employment Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee; notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Occupational Safety and Health Administration announces a meeting of the Fire Protection for Shipyard Employment Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee. OSHA invites all interested persons to attend. The committee members represent groups interested in, or significantly affected by, the outcome of the rulemaking. They include representatives of shipyards, labor unions, professional associations, and government agencies. The committee will continue its discussions on a proposed standard to protect workers from fire hazards in shipyard employment, including the following areas: scope and application; administrative, engineering, and work practice controls; fire brigades; written fire plans; technological advances; cost of fire protection; and the content of appendices. The committee's goal is to reach consensus on a draft proposed standard and explanatory preamble that it will recommend to OSHA.

DATES: The meeting will take place Wednesday, Thursday, and, if necessary Friday, September 9-11, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to about 4:00 p.m. daily. Submit comments, requests for oral

presentations, and requests for disability accommodations by August 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza, 151 Beach Blvd., Biloxi, Mississippi, telephone (601) 435-5400. Mail comments and requests for oral presentations to Mr. Joseph V. Daddura, U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA, Office of Maritime Standards, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-3621, Washington, D.C. 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Joseph V. Daddura, Project Officer, Office of Maritime Standards, OSHA (202-219-7234, ext. 123). For disability accommodations, contact Ms. Theda Kenney (202-219-8061, ext. 100).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Agenda

The committee will focus its discussions on definitions, paperwork burdens, costs and benefits, and the current draft of the recommendation. The committee will also discuss how a proposed rule could impact small employers.

Public Participation

Send written comments, data, views, or statements for the Committee's consideration to Mr. Joseph V. Daddura. You may also request the opportunity to make an oral presentation to the committee by providing Mr. Daddura with a summary of the proposed presentation, an estimate of the time desired, and a statement of the interest you represent. The committee's facilitator will allow such presentations if there is adequate time in the meeting schedule.

Authority: This document is issued pursuant to the Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1990 (5 U.S.C. 561 *et seq.*) and Section 7(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 656).

Signed at Washington, DC, this 30th day of July 1998.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary of Labor.

[FR Doc. 98-20926 Filed 8-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

30 CFR Parts 72 and 75

RIN 1219-AA74

Diesel Particulate Matter Exposure of Underground Coal Miners

AGENCY: Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment periods; notice of hearings; and close of record.

SUMMARY: MSHA is extending the period for public comment regarding the Agency's proposed rule addressing diesel particulate matter exposure of underground coal miners, which was published in the **Federal Register** on April 9, 1998; and the notice of preliminary determination of no significant environmental impact published in the **Federal Register** on July 14, 1998.

The Agency is also announcing that it will hold public hearings in Birmingham, Alabama; Salt Lake City, Utah; Mt. Vernon, Illinois; and Beckley, West Virginia. The hearing dates, times, and locations will be announced by a separate notice in the **Federal Register**.

The rulemaking record will remain open 30 days after the last public hearing.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 9, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed rule may be transmitted by electronic mail, fax, or mail. Comments by electronic mail must be clearly identified as such and sent to this e-mail address: comments@msha.gov. Comments by fax must be clearly identified as such and sent to: MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 703-235-5551. Send mail comments to: MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Room 631, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203-1984 or any MSHA district or field office, and or technical support center. Copies of the proposal are available for review by the mining community at each district and field office location, and at each technical support center. The document is also available for loan to interested members of the public. These comments will become a part of the official rulemaking record. Interested persons are encouraged to supplement written comments with computer files or disks; please contact the Agency with any questions about format.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia W. Silvey, Director; Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances; MSHA; 703-235-1910.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 9, 1998, (63 FR 17492), MSHA published a proposed rule to reduce the risks to underground coal miners of serious health hazards that are associated with exposure to high concentrations of diesel particulate matter (dpm). DPM is a very small particle in diesel exhaust. Underground

miners are exposed to far higher concentrations of this fine particulate than any other group of workers. The best available evidence indicates that such high exposures put these miners at excess risk of a variety of adverse health effects, including lung cancer.

The proposed rule for underground coal mines would require that mine operators install and maintain high-efficiency filtration systems on certain types of diesel-powered equipment. Underground coal mine operators would also be required to train miners about the hazards of dpm exposure.

The comment period was scheduled to close on August 7, 1998. However, due to requests from the mining community, the Agency is extending the comment period for an additional 60 days, until October 9, 1998. MSHA believes that this extension will provide sufficient time for all interested parties to review and comment on the proposal. All interested parties are encouraged to submit comments prior to October 9, 1998.

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et. seq.), requires each Federal agency to consider the environmental effects of proposed actions and to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement on major actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. On July 14, 1998, (63 FR 37796), MSHA published a notice in the **Federal Register** that announced its preliminary determination that the proposed rule would have no significant environmental impact. The comment period was scheduled to close on August 10, 1998; however, by this notice, MSHA is extending the comment period until October 9, 1998.

Additionally, MSHA plans to hold the first public hearing within two weeks of the close of the comment period. The hearing dates, times, and locations will be announced by a separate notice in the **Federal Register**. The hearings will be held under section 101 of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

To allow for the submission of post-hearing comments, the rulemaking record will remain open 30 days after the last public hearing. This date will also be announced by a separate notice in the **Federal Register**. This provides a total of more than 6 months from date of publication for the public to comment on this proposed rule.

Dated: July 30, 1998.

J. Davitt McAteer,
Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 98-20830 Filed 8-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[TX-61-1-7376; FRL-6136-1]

Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans (SIP) for Texas: Accelerated Vehicle Retirement (AVR) Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Withdrawal of proposed disapproval.

SUMMARY: A proposed disapproval of the Texas AVR program was published in the **Federal Register** (FR) on December 19, 1997 (62 FR 66576). The purpose of this action is to withdraw the proposed disapproval. The State has withdrawn the SIP submittal.

DATES: This withdrawal is effective August 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of materials relevant to this document are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the following location. Persons interested in examining these materials should make an appointment at least 24 hours before the visiting day. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sandra Rennie, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), EPA Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733, telephone (214) 664-7367.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On October 31, 1994, Texas submitted a revision to the SIP to provide for a Vehicle Scrapage Program in Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 114: Control of Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles. The program allowed for the scrapage of vehicles, calculating the credits, and applying the credits to stationary sources. The program was not approvable because the method of calculating the credits was not approvable. The method required actual measurements of vehicle mass emissions using the IM240 emissions test. This emissions test is not available to the public in the State because in 1995, the Legislature halted the first vehicle Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) program that used the IM240 test. That program was replaced in 1997, by a low enhanced emissions I/M test that does not measure mass emissions. Consequently, the emissions measured from that program are not quantifiable