

In applying the labor standards, the State agency must determine first whether the offered work is "new work." If it is "new work" a determination must be made as to (1) what is similar work to the offered work, and (2) what are the prevailing wages, hours, or other conditions for similar work in the locality, and (3) whether the offered work is substantially less favorable to the particular claimant than the prevailing wages, hours, or other conditions. The key words and phrases in this standard ("similar work," "locality," "substantially less favorable to the individual," and "wages, hours, and other conditions of work") are discussed in detail in the Bureau's statement, *Principles Underlying the Prevailing Conditions of Work Standard*, Benefit Series, September 1950, 1-BP-1, BSSUI (originally issued January 6, 1947 as Unemployment Compensation Program Letter No. 130).

Please bring this letter to the attention of State agency and Appeal Board personnel engaged in benefit claim adjudication at all levels.

RESCISSIONS: None.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Goodwin,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-25257 Filed 9-21-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[NAFTA-02379; 02379B; 02379C]

Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 250(a), Subchapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2273), the Department of Labor issued a Certification for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance on August 10, 1998, applicable to all workers of Boise Cascade, Emmett Plywood, Emmett, Idaho. The notice will be published soon in the **Federal Register**.

At the request of the company, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. New findings show that worker separations occurred at the subject firm's Cascade, Idaho plant. The company also reports that worker separations will occur at the Horseshoe Bend, Idaho facility when it closes September 30, 1998. The workers at the Cascade and Horseshoe Bend, Idaho facilities process logs into green lumber that is used in the manufacturing of plywood. The production of green lumber at Boise Cascade's Cascade and Horseshoe Bend, Idaho plants contribute to the production of plywood at Boise Cascade's Emmett Plywood, Emmett,

Idaho plant. Accordingly, the Department is amending the certification to cover workers at the subject firms' Cascade and Horseshoe Bend, Idaho plants.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of Boise Cascade adversely affected by imports from Canada.

The amended notice applicable to NAFTA-02379 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Boise Cascade, Emmett Plywood, Emmett, Idaho (NAFTA-02379), Cascade, Idaho (NAFTA-02379B) and Horseshoe Bend, Idaho (NAFTA-02379C) who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after May 5, 1997 through August 10, 2000 are eligible to apply for NAFTA-TAA under Section 250 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, DC this 3rd day of September, 1998.

Linda G. Poole,

Acting Program Manager, Policy and Reemployment Services, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 98-25262 Filed 9-21-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Petitions for Modification

The following parties have filed petitions to modify the application of mandatory safety standards under section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

1. Independence Coal Company

[Docket No. M-98-79-C]

Independence Coal Company, HC 78 Box 1800, Madison, West Virginia 25130 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1002 (location of trolley wires, trolley feeder wires, high-voltage cables and transformers) to its Justice No. 1 Mine (I.D. No. 46-07273) located in Boone County, West Virginia. The petitioner proposes to use high-voltage longwall mining equipment. The petitioner asserts that the nominal voltage of the longwall power circuit(s) would not exceed 4,160 volts. In addition, the petitioner asserts that the specific terms and conditions listed in this petition would be followed and proposed revisions that specify initial and refresher training regarding these terms and conditions for its approved Part 48 training plan would be submitted to the District Manager within 60 days after the proposed decision and order becomes final. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at

least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

2. Mettiki Coal Corporation

[Docket No. M-98-80-C]

Mettiki Coal Corporation, 293 Table Rock Road, Oakland, Maryland 21550 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1002-1 (location of other electric equipment; requirements for permissibility) to its Mettiki Mine (I.D. No. 18-00621) located in Garrett County, Maryland. The petitioner proposes to use nonpermissible low horsepower testing and diagnostic equipment within 150 feet from pillar workings. The petitioner asserts that application of the standard would result in a diminution of safety to the miners. In addition, the petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

Request for Comments

Persons interested in these petitions are encouraged to submit comments via e-mail to "comments@msha.gov", or on a computer disk along with an original hard copy to the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, Virginia 22203. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before October 22, 1998. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated: September 17, 1998.

Patricia W. Silvey,

Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

[FR Doc. 98-25309 Filed 9-21-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health; Notice of Open Meeting

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

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH) will meet October 7 and 8, 1998, at the Frances Perkins Department of Labor Building, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. This meeting is open to the public.

DATES: This ACCSH meeting will be held on October 7 and 8, 1998 as