

the effects, if any, of not providing the information; (4) the requirement under (e)(5) to maintain all records with such accuracy, relevance, timeliness and completeness as is reasonably necessary to assure fairness to the individual, (5) the requirement under (e)(8) to make reasonable efforts to serve notice on an individual when any record on the individual is made available to any person under compulsory legal process when that process becomes a matter of public record; and (6) the authority under (g) providing that individuals may bring a civil action against the agency for violations of the Privacy Act.

[FR Doc. 00-3116 Filed 2-22-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-CJ-M

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary; Submission for OMB review; comment request

Dated: February 16, 2000.

The Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection requests (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in

accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). A copy of each individual ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor. To obtain documentation for BLS, ETA, PWBA, and OASAM contact Karin Kurz (202) 219-5096 ext. 159 or by E-mail to Kurz-Karin@dol.gov). To obtain documentation for ESA, MSHA, OHSA, and VETS contact Darrin King (202) 219-5096 ext. 151 or by E-Mail to King-Darrin@dol.gov).

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for BLS, DM, ESA, ETA, MSHA, OSHA, PWBA, or VETS, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316), within 30 days from the date of this publication in the Federal Register.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement, without change.

*Agency:* Employment and Training Administration.

*Title:* Labor Condition Application and Requirements for Employer Using Nonimmigrants on H-1B Visas.

*OMB Number:* 1205-0310.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; State, Local, or Tribal governments, business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institution.

Activity	Number of respondents	Frequency	Average time per response (Min)	Total respondent burden (Hrs.)
Review Instructions .....	200,000	On Occasion .....	15	50,000
Compile Information/File .....	200,000	On Occasion .....	30	100,000
Complete/Submit/Post .....	200,000	On Occasion .....	15	50,000
File Complaints .....	200,000	On Occasion .....	15	50
Total .....	200,000	On Occasion .....	60	200,000

*Total Annualized capital/startup costs:* \$0

*Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services):* \$0

*Description:* The application form and other requirements in these regulations for employers seeking to use H-1B non-immigrants in specialty occupations and as fashion models will permit the Department of Labor to meet its statutory responsibilities for program administration, management, and oversight.

**Ira L. Mills**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

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BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Mine Safety and Health Administration

#### Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Identification of Independent Contractors

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized,

collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the employee listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before April 24, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Diane B. Hill, Program Analysis Officer, Office of Program Evaluation and Information Resources, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 715, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Commenters are encouraged to send their comments on a computer disk, or via Internet E-mail to [dhill@msha.gov](mailto:dhill@msha.gov), along with an original printed copy. Ms. Hill can be reached at (703) 235-1470 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Diane B. Hill, Program Analysis Officer, Office of Program Evaluation and

Information Resources, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 719, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Ms. Hill can be reached at [dhill@msha.gov](mailto:dhill@msha.gov) (Internet E-mail), (703) 235-1470 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Title 30 CFR 45.3 provides that independent contractors may voluntarily obtain a permanent MSHA identification number by submitting to MSHA their trade name and business address, a telephone number, an estimate of the annual hours worked by the contractor on mine property for the previous calendar year, and the address of record for service of documents upon the contractor. Independent contractors performing services or construction at mines are subject to the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act and are responsible for violations of the Act committed by them or their employees.

Although independent contractors are not required to apply for the identification number, they will be assigned one by MSHA the first time they are cited for a violation of the Mine Act. MSHA uses the information to issue a permanent MSHA identification number to the independent contractor.

##### II. Desired Focus of Comments

Currently, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection related to Identification of Independent Contractors. MSHA is particularly interested in comments which:

- evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

MSHA uses the information to issue a permanent MSHA identification

number to the independent contractor. This number allows MSHA to keep track of a contractor's violation history so that appropriate civil penalties can be assessed for violations of the Mine Act or its accompanying mandatory health and safety standards.

##### III. Current Actions

MSHA is requesting that the approval be extended for three years.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration.

*Title:* Identification of Independent Contractors.

*OMB Number:* 1219-0043.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit institutions.

*Cite/Reference/Form/etc:* 30 CFR 45.3.

*Total Respondents:* 1,687.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Total Responses:* 1,687.

*Average Time per Response:* 11 minutes.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 191 hours.

*Estimated Total Burden Cost:* \$368.

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

Dated: February 16, 2000.

**George M. Fresak,**

*Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources.*

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BILLING CODE 4510-43-M

#### NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-254 and 50-265]

##### Commonwealth Edison Company and MidAmerican Energy Company (Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2); Order Approving Application Regarding Change in Shareholders of MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company

##### I

MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) owns a 25-percent interest in Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2 (Quad Cities). Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) owns the remaining 75-percent share of Quad Cities. In connection therewith, MidAmerican and ComEd hold Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-29 and DPR-30 for Quad Cities issued by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission pursuant to Part 50 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations

(10 CFR Part 50) on December 14, 1972. Under these licenses, only ComEd, acting for itself and as agent and representative of MidAmerican, has the authority to operate Quad Cities. Quad Cities is located in Rock Island County, Illinois.

##### II

By application transmitted under two cover letters dated November 15, 1999, as supplemented on January 3, January 5, and February 14, 2000, and which cross referenced a submittal dated November 2, 1999, MidAmerican and ComEd submitted a request for approval by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) to the extent a proposed change in the shareholders of MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company (MEHC), the parent company of MidAmerican, would effect an indirect transfer of the Quad Cities licenses, as held by MidAmerican, within the scope of 10 CFR 50.80. The change involves the acquisition of all of the now publicly traded, widely held stock of MEHC, by a small group of investors. This group of investors consists of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., and/or subsidiaries thereof (Berkshire); David L. Sokol, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of MEHC; and Walter Scott, MEHC's largest individual shareholder, and/or certain Scott family interests; and potentially other members of MEHC's management. The application indicates that following the proposed change in MEHC shareholders, Berkshire's investment in MEHC voting common stock will be 9.9% of shares outstanding, the investment associated with Mr. Scott will be approximately 88.1%, and Mr. Sokol will hold approximately 2% of the voting common stock of MEHC; the latter two percentages being subject to slight variation in the event of participation by other members of MEHC management. The overall equity holdings, taking into account convertible preferred stock, would be approximately 81% for Berkshire and 18% for Mr. Scott and associates, with less than 1% for all others. Mr. Scott will be able to appoint four directors to the MEHC board, while Berkshire will be able to appoint two directors to the board, which will comprise ten members. According to the application, following the change in MEHC shareholders MidAmerican would continue to be a 25 percent minority owner and possession-only licensee of Quad Cities and would remain an "electric utility" as defined in 10 CFR 50.2, engaged in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electric energy for wholesale and retail.