

proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) 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;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) 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.

Overview of This Information

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* New Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Survey of Best Practices for Hiring and Retention of Female and Minority Law Enforcement Officers.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* None. Bureau of Justice Assistance, United States Department of Justice.

(4) *Affected public who will be as or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* *Primary:* Local Law Enforcement Agency *Other:* None. 42 USC 3760 [Sec. 510.] Purposes (a)(4) providing financial assistance to public agencies and private nonprofit organizations for demonstration programs which, in view of previous research or experience, are likely to be a success in more than one jurisdiction.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond/reply:* The time burden of the 800 respondents to complete the survey is 35 minutes per application.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The total annual hour burden to complete survey is approximately 400 hours.

If additional information is required contact: Ms. Brenda E. Dyer, Deputy Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff Justice Management Division, Suite 1220, National Place Building, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: February 22, 2000.

Brenda E. Dyer,

Department Deputy Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 00-4610 Filed 2-25-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Clean Air Act

In accordance with Departmental policy, 28 C.F.R. 50.7, and section 113(g) of the Clean Air Act, ("Act") 42 U.S.C. § 7413(g), notice is hereby given that on February 17, 2000, a proposed consent decree in *United States v. Pan American Grain Manufacturing Co., Inc.*, ("PAGM") Civil Action No. 98-1197 (JP) was lodged with the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

The proposed consent decree resolves the United States' claims against PAGM for violations of the Act and the requirements or prohibitions of the State Implementation Plan for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico ("SIP"), promulgated pursuant to Section 110 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7410, regarding particulate emissions from PAGM's grain handling and processing facilities in the Guaynabo, Puerto Rico area. Under the terms of the proposed consent decree, PAGM will pay a civil penalty of \$410,000.00 to the United States, complete performance testing to demonstrate full compliance with the SIP regulations at each of its facilities, comply with operation standards prescribed by the proposed consent decree, file quarterly reports regarding its compliance efforts, and maintain compliance with the Act and the applicable SIP.

The Department of Justice will receive for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication comments relating to the proposed consent decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General of the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530, and should refer to *United States v. Pan American Grain Manufacturing Co., Inc.*, DOJ Ref. No. 90-5-2-1-2133.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the office of the United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, Federico Degeteau Federal Building, Carlos Chardon Avenue, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico 00918, and at the Region II Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, New York, New York, 10007. A copy of the proposed consent decree may also be obtained by mail from the Department of Justice Consent Decree Library, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611. In requesting a copy, please enclose a check, payable to the Consent Decree Library in the amount of \$9.50 (25 cents per page reproduction costs) for the proposed consent decree alone, or

\$72.00 for the proposed consent decree with all attachments.

Joel M. Gross,

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 00-4592 Filed 2-25-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

February 22, 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, OSHA, 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.

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA); Labor.

Title: Personal Protective Equipment for General Industry (29 CFR part 1910).

OMB Number: 1218-0205.

Frequency: Varies (on occasion, annually).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Federal, Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 169,215.

Estimated Time Per respondent: Varies from five minutes (0.08 hour) to 29 hours.

Total Burden Hours: 608,871.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: \$0.

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

Description: The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the Act) authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or appropriate for enforcement of the Act or for developing information regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents. (29 U.S.C. 657.) Paragraph 1910.132(d) of the PPE standard requires employers to perform a hazard assessment of the workplace to determine if personal protective equipment is necessary. The hazard assessment is an important part of the process to assure that the PPE selected is appropriate for the hazards present in the workplace. Paragraph (d)(2) requires employers to certify that they performed a hazard assessment. The signed certification must include the date of the hazard assessment and the identification of the workplace evaluated (area or location).

Paragraph (f)(4) of 1910.132 requires employers to certify that employees received and understood PPE training. The training certification must include the name of the employee(s) trained, the date of training, and the subject of the certification (i.e., a statement identifying the document as a certification of training in the use of PPE).

The hazard assessment assures that the PPE selected is appropriate for the hazards present in the workplace. The certification record required with the hazard assessment verifies that the employer conducted the hazard assessment. The training certification verifies that employees received the necessary training involving the use of PPE. OSHA compliance officers may require employers to disclose the certification records during an Agency inspection

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA); Labor.

Title: Personal Protective Equipment for Shipyard Employment (20 CFR at 1915, Subpart I).

OMB Number: 1218-0215.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 500.

Estimated Time Per respondent: Varies from 5 minutes (0.08 hour) to 45 minutes (0.75 hour).

Total Burden Hours: 707.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: \$0.

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

Description: Employers are required to assess their work activity to determine whether there are hazards present, or likely to be present, which necessitate the employee's use of PPE. Employers must verify that the required occupational hazard assessment has been performed through a document that contains the following information: occupation, the date(s) of the hazard assessment, and the name of the person performing the hazard assessment.

Ira L. Mills,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-4581 Filed 2-25-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) Job Training Partnership Act, Title III-B: Skills Shortages, Partnership Training/System Building Demonstration Program

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds and solicitation for grant applications (SGA).

This Notice Contains All of the Necessary Information and Forms Needed To Apply for Grant Funding. **SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) announces a competitive demonstration solicitation for grant applications (SGA) to respond to employers' identified skill shortages through the establishment or strengthening of regional consortia. Grants will be made to successful applicants which provide evidence of being positioned to plan and implement

a successful strategy to respond to shortages of workers seeking employment with skills needed by specific employers in a regional labor market (including typical local commuting area). Successful applicants must also initiate a skill training design for preparing eligible dislocated workers, incumbent workers and new entrants into the workforce that will alleviate skill shortages within the region which the applicant represents and provide the necessary skill sets to those seeking new employment or reemployment.

The funding for this program will be the demonstration authority of the Secretary's National Reserve Account appropriated for Title III-B of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) of 1982, as amended, and administered in accordance with 29 CFR parts 95 and 97, as applicable.

Applicants are also encouraged to be familiar with the provisions of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA). As the Department moves toward implementation of WIA which becomes effective July 1, 2000, and for the next few years, it is anticipated that even greater emphasis will be placed on regional and unified planning and other initiatives to accommodate or address regional workforce development concerns. It is expected that the consortia established or strengthened as a result of the award of these demonstration grant funds will actively collaborate with the emerging structures of WIA implementation.

The Department encourages interested applicants to consult with other on-going programs such as grantees funded by the June 1998 \$7.7 million dislocated worker technology demonstration and the June 1999 \$10 million manufacturing technology demonstration program. Information regarding these demonstrations may be found at <http://www.doleta.gov>. In addition, experiences gained through current regional initiatives may provide insight into developing a regional consortia approach to addressing workforce development needs and strategies.

In addition to partnership-building activities to address skill shortages, the grants funded as a result of this SGA will support assessment of community employment needs (community audits), designing or adapting training curricula based upon specific "just-in-time" employer needs, and limited operational testing of a training design. Partnerships and systems for responding to skill shortages developed as a part of this demonstration will be expected to continue, and indeed improve and