

Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance (DTAA); this system is now known as the Trade Act Participant Report (TAPR). States implemented the TAPR beginning with the first quarter of fiscal year 1999 (October through December, 1998), and have continued to collect and report data every quarter since then.

Because both Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) and Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) serve adult dislocated workers, the TAPR was modeled on the Standardized Program Information Report (SPIR) system used by the JTPA programs. The passage of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA), which replaced JTPA, made substantial changes in Federal employment and training programs, including changes in the way participant data are defined, gathered, and reported.

II. Review Focus

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed revision of information collection 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.

III. Current Actions

In order to maintain coordination and continuity with the dislocated worker program under Title One of WIA, and to make other improvements, DTAA is proposing revisions to the TAPR that make it substantially the same as the system to be used by the WIA programs. The major changes are the following:

1. The definitions of Race and Ethnicity are now compliant with the most recent OMB definitions.
2. Date for defining and judging outcomes for participants are now based upon Wage Record data rather than surveys of individuals program exiters. It is estimated that this will

substantially reduce the reporting burden on the States.

3. Minor revisions in the sequence and definitions of some of the TAPR fields have been made in order to increase the degree of continuity with the new system to be used by the dislocated workers program under WIA Title I.

4. The format for reporting dates has been changed from MMDDYYYY to YYYYMMDD to conform with the new WIA-Based system.

Type of Review: Revision.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration.

Title: Trade Act Participant Report (TAPR).

OMB Number: 1205-0392.

Affected Public: State governments.

Frequency: Quarterly.

Total Responses: 200 (50 per quarter).

Average Time per Response: 40 hours per quarter.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 8,000.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): 0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): \$120,000.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request 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: May 25, 2000.

Edward A. Tomchick.

Director, Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-1218-0108(2000)]

Ethylene Oxide (EtO) Standard (29 CFR 1910.1047); Extension of the Office of Management of Budget's (OMB) Approval of Information-Collection (Paperwork) Requirements

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

ACTION: Notice of an opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits comments concerning the extension of the information-collection requirements contained in the Ethylene Oxide Standard (the "EtO Standard") (29 CFR 1910.1047).

Request For Comment

The Agency has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

- Whether the information-collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency's functions, including whether the information is useful;

- The accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden (time and costs) of the information-collection requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- The quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden on employers who must comply; for example, by using automated or other technological information-collection and -transmission techniques.

DATES: Submit written comments on or before July 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Docket Office, Docket No. ICR-1218-0108(2000), Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-2350. Commenters may transmit written comments of 10 pages or less in length by facsimile to (202) 693-1648.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Todd R. Owen, Directorate of Policy, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3641, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC; telephone: (202) 693-2444. A copy of the Agency's Information-Collection Request (ICR) supporting the need for the information-collection requirements in the EtO Standard is available for inspection and copying in the Docket Office, or you may request a mailed copy by telephoning Todd R. Owen at (202) 693-2444. For electronic copies of the ICR on the EtO Standard, contact OSHA on the Internet at <http://www.osha.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

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 continuing information-collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA-95) (44 U.S.C.(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, collection instruments clearly understood, and OSHA's estimate of the information burden is correct. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of the 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).

The information-collection requirements specified in the EtO Standard protect employees from the adverse health effects that may result from their exposure to EtO. The major information-collection requirements of the EtO Standard include notifying employees of their EtO exposures, implementing a written compliance program, providing examining physicians with specific information, ensuring that employees receive a copy of their medical-examination results, maintaining employees' exposure-monitoring and medical records for specific periods, and providing access to these records by OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the affected employees, and their authorized representatives.

II Proposed Actions

OSHA proposed to increase the existing burden-hour estimate, and to extend OMB's approval, of the collection-of-information (paperwork) requirements contained in the EtO Standard. The Agency is increasing its previous estimate, 50,300 hours, by 989 hours. This increase occurred because of the increase in the number of hospitals using EtO sterilizers. OSHA will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice, and will include this summary in the request to OMB to extend the approval of the information-collection requirements contained in the EtO Standard.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved information-collection requirements.

Title: Ethylene Oxide Standard (29 CFR 1910.1047).

OMB Number: 1218-0108.

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

Number of Respondents: 5,782.

Frequency: On occasion.

Total Responses: 232,564.

Average Time per Response: Varies from 5 minutes to provide information to the examining physician to 10 hours to develop a compliance plan.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 51,289.

Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance): \$7,074,850.

III. Authority and Signature

Charles N. Jeffress, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and

Health, directed the preparation of this notice. The authority for this notice is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506) and Secretary of Labor's Order No 6-96 (62 FR 111).

Signed at Washington, D.C., on May 25, 2000.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary of Labor.

[FR Doc. 00-13696 Filed 5-31-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-1218-0190 (2000)]

Electrical Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution (29 CFR 1910.269) and Electrical Protective Equipment (29 CFR 1910.137)); Extension of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Approval of an Information Collection (Paperwork) Request

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

ACTION: Notice of an opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection requirements contained in the standards on Electrical Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution, 29 CFR 1910.269, and Electrical Protective Equipment, 29 CFR 1910.137.

Request For Comment: The Agency seeks comments on the following issues:

- Whether the information collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency's functions, including whether the information is useful;
- The accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden (time and costs) of the information collection requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- The quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden on employers who must comply; for example, by using automated or other technological information transmission and collection techniques.

DATES: Submit written comments on or before July 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Docket Office, Docket No. ICR-1218-0190(2000), Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.,

Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-2350. Commenters may transmit written comments of 10 pages or less in length by facsimile to (202) 693-1648.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Theda Kenney, Directorate of Safety Standards Programs, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room 3-3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-2222. A copy of the Agency's Information Collection Request (ICR) supporting the need for the information collection requirements contained in the standards on Electrical Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution (29 CFR 1910.269) and Electrical Protective Equipment (29 CFR 1910.137) is available for inspection and copying in the Docket Office, or mailed on request by telephoning Theda Kenney at (202) 693-2222 or Barbara Bielaski at (202) 693-2444. For electronic copies of the ICR, contact OSHA on the Internet at <http://www.osha.gov/comp-links.html>, and click on "Information Collection Requests."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

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 continuing information collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA-95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA's estimate of the information collection burden is correct.

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.) In this regard, the information collection requirement contained in 29 CFR 1910.269 will ensure that employers train employees in all aspects of electrical power generation, transmission, and distribution. The information collection requirement in 29 CFR 1910.137 will ensure that equipment used by exposed employees is in reliable working condition.