

BURDEN BREAKDOWN—Continued

Citation 30 CFR part 256	Reporting requirement	Annual number	Burden hour(s) per response	Annual burden hours	Annual hour burden cost
256.53(c), (d), (f); 256.54(d)(3).	Demonstrate ability to carry out present and future financial obligations, request approval of another form of security, or request reduction in amount of supplemental bond required.	162 submissions ....	2½	405	@ \$100 = \$40,500
256.55(b) .....	Notify MMS of action filed alleging lessee, surety, or guarantor are insolvent or bankrupt.	2 notices .....	½	1	@ \$100 = \$100
256.56 .....	Provide plan to fund lease-specific abandonment account and related information; request approval to withdraw funds.	4 submissions .....	11	44	@ \$50 = \$2,200
256.57 .....	Provide third-party guarantee, indemnity agreement, related notices, and annual update.	12 submissions .....	16½	198	@ \$50 = \$9,900
256.57(d)(3), 256.58.	Notice of and request approval to terminate period of liability, cancel bond, or other security.	280 requests .....	½	140	@ \$50 = \$7,000
256.59(c)(2) .....	Provide information to demonstrate lease will be brought into compliance.	3 responses .....	14	42	@ \$50 = \$2,100
Subpart J: 256.62, 256.64, 256.65, 256.67.	File application for assignment or transfer for approval.	1,845 applications ..	1	1,845	@ \$50 = \$92,250
256.64(a)(7) .....	File required instruments creating or transferring working interests, etc., for record purposes.	2,915 filings .....	½	*1,458	@ \$50 = \$72,900
256.64(a)(8) .....	Submit non-required documents for record purposes which respondents want MMS to file with the lease document.	Accepted on behalf of lessees as a service, but MMS does not require nor need the filings.		0	0
Subpart K: 256.76 ... Total Reporting	File written request for relinquishment ... 8,815 Responses .....	305 relinquishments 16,329 .....	1 \$1,382,950	305	@ \$50 = \$15,250

\* Rounded.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost"*

**Burden:** The estimated "non-hour cost" burden for this information collection is a total of \$414,450. This cost burden is for filing fees associated with submitting requests for approval of instruments of transfer (\$185 per application) or to file non-required documents for record purposes (\$25 per filing) according to § 256.64(a)(8).

**Comments:** The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires each agency " \* \* \* to provide notice \* \* \* and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information \* \* \*" Agencies must specifically solicit comments to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the

burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

To comply with the public consultation process, on October 11, 2000, we published a **Federal Register** notice (65 FR 60449) with the required 60-day comment period announcing that we would submit this ICR to OMB for approval. In addition, § 256.0 and the PRA statement on the MMS forms display the OMB control number, specify that the public may comment at anytime on the collection of information required in the 30 CFR part 256 regulations and forms, and provide the address to which they should send comments. We have received no comments in response to those efforts. We also consulted with several respondents and adjusted some of the information collection burdens as a result of those consultations.

If you wish to comment in response to this notice, send your comments

directly to the offices listed under the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. The OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum consideration, OMB should receive public comments by March 9, 2001.

**MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer:** Jo Ann Lauterbach, (202) 208-7744.

Dated: January 23, 2001.

**E.P. Danenberger,**  
Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.  
[FR Doc. 01-3201 Filed 2-6-01; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement**

**Notice of Proposed Information Collection**

**AGENCY:** Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing its intention to request renewed approval for the collection of information on Underground Mining Permit Applications—Minimum Requirements for Reclamation and Operation Plans, 30 CFR part 784.

**DATES:** Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by April 9, 2001, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room 210—SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to [jtreleas@osmre.gov](mailto:jtreleas@osmre.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information and related form, contact John A. Trelease, at (202) 208-2783, or submit electronically to [jtreleas@osmre.gov](mailto:jtreleas@osmre.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies information collections that OSM will be submitting to OMB for extension. These collections are contained in 30 CFR 784.

OSM has revised burden estimates, where appropriate, to reflect current reporting levels or adjustments based on reestimates of burden or respondents and costs. OSM will request a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. A summary of the public comments will accompany OSM's submission of the information collection request to OMB.

This notice provides the public with 60 days in which to comment on the

following information collection activity:

**Title:** Underground Mining Permit Application—Minimum Requirements for Reclamation and Operation Plans, 30 CFR part 784.

**OMB Control Number:** 1029-0039.

**Summary:** Sections 507(b), 508(b), of Public Law 95-87 require underground coal mine permit applicants to submit an operations and reclamation plan and establish performance standards for the mining operation. Information submitted is used by the regulatory authority to determine if the applicant can comply with the applicable performance and environmental standards required by the law.

**Bureau Form Number:** None.

**Frequency of Collection:** Once.

**Description of Respondents:** Underground coal mining permit applicants and State regulatory authorities.

**Total Annual Responses:** 100.

**Total Annual Burden Hours:** 96,460.

Dated: January 30, 2001.

**Richard G. Bryson,**

*Chief, Division of Regulatory Support.*

[FR Doc. 01-3101 Filed 2-6-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

#### Notice of Proposed Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing that the information collection requests for 30 CFR part 702, Exemption for Coal Extraction Incidental to the Extraction of Other Minerals; and 30 CFR part 850, Permanent Regulatory Program Requirements—Standards for Certification of Blasters, have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The information collection requests describe the nature of the information collections and their expected burden and cost.

**DATES:** OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, public comments should be submitted to OMB by March

9, 2001, in order to be assured of consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request a copy of either information collection request, explanatory information and related form, contact John A. Trelease at (202) 208-2783. You may also contact Mr. Trelease at [jtreleas@osmre.gov](mailto:jtreleas@osmre.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** OMB regulations at 5 CFR part 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)]. OSM has submitted two requests to OMB to renew its approval for the collections of information found at 30 CFR parts 702 and 850. OSM is requesting a 3-year term of approval for these information collection activities.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for these collections of information are 1029-0089 for Part 702 and 1029-0080 for Part 850, and may be found in OSM's regulations at 702.10 and 850.10.

As required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), **Federal Register** notices soliciting comments on the collection of information for Part 702 was published on November 7, 2000 (65 FR 66764; and on November 2, 2000 (65 FR 65879) for Part 850. No comments were received from either notice. This notice provides the public with an additional 30 days in which to comment on the following information collection activities;

**Title:** Exemption for Coal Extraction Incidental to the Extraction of Other Minerals, 30 CFR part 702.

**OMB Control Number:** 1029-0089.

**Summary:** This part implements the requirement in section 701(28) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA), which grants an exemption from the requirements of SMCRA to operators extracting not more than 16 $\frac{2}{3}$  percentage tonnage of coal incidental to the extraction of other minerals. This information will be used by the regulatory authorities to make that determination.

**Bureau Form Number:** None.

**Frequency of Collection:** Once and annually thereafter.

**Description of Respondents:**

Producers of coal and other minerals.

**Total Annual Responses:** 61.

**Total Annual Burden Hours:** 513.