

on computer disk, or via Internet E-mail to [Tarr-Jane@Msha.Gov](mailto:Tarr-Jane@Msha.Gov). Ms. Tarr can be reached at (202) 693-9824 (voice), or (202) 693-9801 (facsimile).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jane Tarr, Management Analyst, Records Management Group, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 2171, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22209-3939. Ms. Tarr can be reached at [Tarr-Jane@Msha.Gov](mailto:Tarr-Jane@Msha.Gov) (Internet E-mail), (202) 693-9824 (voice), or (202) 693-9801 (facsimile).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Section 77.1901 requires operators to conduct examinations of slope and shaft areas for hazardous conditions, including tests for methane and oxygen deficiency, within 90 minutes before each shift, once during each shift, and before and after blasting. The surface area surrounding each slope and shaft is also required to be inspected for hazards.

Section 77.1901 also requires that records be kept of the results of the inspections. The record includes a description of any hazardous condition found and the corrective action taken to abate it. These records are necessary to ensure that the inspections and tests are conducted in a timely fashion and that corrective action is taken when hazardous conditions are identified, thereby ensuring a safe working environment for the slope and shaft sinking employees. The record is maintained at the mine site for the duration of the operation.

**II. Desired Focus of Comments**

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.

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, or viewed on the Internet by accessing the MSHA home page (<http://www.msha.gov>) and then choosing "Statutory and Regulatory Information" and "Federal Register Documents."

**III. Current Actions**

Section 77.1901 requires operators to conduct examinations of slope and shaft areas for hazardous conditions, including tests for methane and oxygen deficiency, within 90 minutes before each shift, once during each shift, and before and after blasting. The surface area surrounding each slope and shaft is also required to be inspected for hazards. Section 77.1901 also requires that records be kept of the results of the inspections.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration.

*Title:* Records of Preshift and Onshift Inspections of Slope and Shaft Areas.

*OMB Number:* 1219-0082.

*Recordkeeping:* The standard also requires that a record be kept of the results of the inspections. The record includes a description of any hazardous condition found and the corrective action taken to abate it. The record is necessary to ensure that the inspections and tests are conducted in a timely fashion and that corrective action is taken when hazardous conditions are identified, thereby ensuring a safe working environment for the slope and shaft sinking employees. The record is maintained at the mine site for the duration of the operation.

*Frequency:* On Occasion.

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

*Respondents:* 35.

*Average Time Per Response:* 1.25 hours.

*Total Burden Hours:* 14,823 hours.

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$0.

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining):* \$0.

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 at Arlington, Virginia, this 8th day of July, 2003.

**David L. Meyer,**

*Director, Office of Administration and Management.*

[FR Doc. 03-18092 Filed 7-16-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-43-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration**

[Docket No. ICR-1218-0183(2003)]

**Standard on 4,4'-Methylenedianiline Construction (29 CFR 1926.60); Extension of the Office of Management and Budget's Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements**

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

**ACTION:** Request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** OSHA requests comment concerning its proposed extension of the information-collection requirements specified by the Standard on 4,4'-Methylenedianiline Construction (29 CFR 1926.60). The standard protects employees from the adverse health effects that may result from occupational exposure to MDA, including cancer, and liver and skin disease.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by the following dates:

*Hard Copy:* Your comments must be submitted (postmarked or received) by September 15, 2003.

*Facsimile and electronic transmission:* Your comments must be sent by September 15, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:**

**I. Submission of Comments**

*Regular mail, express delivery, hand-delivery, and messenger service:* Submit your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. ICR-1218-0183(2003), Room N-2625, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. OSHA Docket Office and Department of Labor hours of operation are 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., EST.

*Facsimile:* If your comments, including any attachments, are 10 pages or fewer, you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-1648. You must include the docket number ICR 1218-0183(2003), in your comments.

*Electronic:* You may submit comments, but not attachments, through the Internet at <http://ecomments.osha.gov>.

**II. Obtaining Copies of the Supporting Statement for the Information Collection Request**

The Supporting Statement for the Information Collection Request is available for downloading from OSHA's Web site at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov). The supporting statement is available for inspection and copying in the OSHA

Docket Office, at the address listed above. A printed copy of the supporting statement can be obtained by contacting Todd Owen at (202) 693-2222.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Todd Owen, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-2222.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent (*i.e.*, employer) burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information-collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimized, collection instruments are understandable, 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).

The information-collection requirements specified in the 4',4'-Methylenedianiline Standard for Construction (the "MDA Standard") protect employees from the adverse health effects that may result from their exposure to MDA, including cancer, and liver and skin disease. The major paperwork requirements specify that employers must perform initial, periodic, and additional exposure monitoring; within 15 days after receiving exposure-monitoring results, notify each employee in writing of their results; and routinely inspect the hands, face, and forearms of each employee potentially exposed to MDA for signs of dermal exposure to MDA. Employers must also: Establish a written compliance program; institute a respiratory-protection program in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.134 (OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard); and develop a written emergency plan for any construction operation that could have an emergency (*i.e.*, an unexpected and potentially hazardous release of MDA).

Employers are to label any material or products containing MDA, including containers used to store MDA-

contaminated protective clothing and equipment. They also must inform personnel who launder MDA-contaminated clothing of the requirement to prevent release of MDA, while personnel who launder or clean MDA-contaminated protective clothing or equipment must receive information about the potentially harmful effects of MDA. In addition, employers are to post warning signs at entrances or accessways to regulated areas, as well as train employees exposed to MDA at the time of their initial assignment, and at least annually thereafter.

Other paperwork provisions of the MDA Standard require employers to provide employees with medical examinations, including initial, periodic, emergency and follow-up examinations. As part of the medical-surveillance program, employers must ensure that the examining physician receives specific written information, and that they obtain from the physician a written opinion regarding the employee's medical results and exposure limitations.

The MDA Standard also specifies that employers are to establish and maintain exposure-monitoring and medical-surveillance records for each employee who is subject to these respective requirements, make any required record available to OSHA compliance officers and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for examination and copying, and provide exposure-monitoring and medical-surveillance records to employees and their designated representatives. Finally, employers who cease to do business within the period specified for retaining exposure-monitoring and medical-surveillance records, and who have no successor employer, must notify NIOSH at least 90 days before disposing of the records and transmit the records to NIOSH if so requested.

**II. Special Issues for Comment**

OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

- Whether the proposed information-collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency's functions to protect workers, including whether the information is useful;
- The accuracy of OSHA'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.

**III. Proposed Actions**

OSHA proposes to extend the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) approval of the collection-of-information requirements specified by the Standards on 4,4'-Methylenedianiline Construction (29 CFR 1926.60). The Agency will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice, and will include this summary in its request to OMB to extend in the approval of these information-collection requirements.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved information-collection requirement.

*Title:* Standard on 4,4'-Methylenedianiline Construction (29 CFR 1926.60).

*OMB Number:* 1218-0183.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions; Federal government; State, local, or tribal Governments.

*Number of Respondents:* 66.

*Frequency of Recordkeeping:* On occasion.

*Average Time per Response:* Varies from one minute (.08 hour) to provide information to the physician and 2 hours for initial monitoring.

*Total Annual Hours Requested:* 1,609.

*Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance):* \$80,437.

**IV. Authority and Signature**

John L. Henshaw, 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. 5-2002 (67 FR 65008).

Signed at Washington, DC, on July 14, 2003.

**John L. Henshaw,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor.*

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