

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Office of the Secretary****Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506–3507), the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection requirement for review and clearance.

*OMB Number:* 1225–0072.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Applicant Background Questionnaire.

*Description:* The form gathers information concerning the gender, race or ethnic background, and disability status of applicants for employment. Applicants for employment are asked to voluntarily complete these questions to assist the agency in evaluating and improving its efforts to publicize job openings and to encourage applications for employment, from a diverse group of qualified candidates, including minorities and persons with disabilities. The Department will use the information to assess the effectiveness of specific outreach efforts and means of communicating information on job vacancies. The currently approved form is being extended with no revision.

**DATES:** Comments will be considered if received on or before April 5, 2004.

Send or deliver written comments to: William Anderson Glasgow, U.S. Department of Labor, Human Resource Center, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room N–5470, Washington, DC 20210.

For copies of the form, and further information contact William Anderson Glasgow on (202) 693–7738, or e-mail address [glasgow.william@dol.gov](mailto:glasgow.william@dol.gov).

*Estimated number of respondents:* 3000.

*The average estimated response time:* 5 minutes.

*Total estimated public burden:* 250 hours.

Signed at Washington, DC this 27th day of February, 2004.

**Daliza Salas,**

*Director of Human Resources.*

[FR Doc. 04–4836 Filed 3–3–04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510–23–M**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Mine Safety and Health Administration****Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Applications for a Permit to Fire More Than 20 Boreholes, for the Use of Nonpermissible Blasting Units, Explosives, and Shot-firing Units**

**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. Currently, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection related to the application for a permit to fire more than 20 boreholes, for the use of nonpermissible blasting units, and for the use of nonpermissible explosives and nonpermissible shot-firing units, and posting of warning notices with regard to mis-fired explosives.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before May 3, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Darrin King, Chief, Records Management Division, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2139, Arlington, VA 22209–3939. Commenters are encouraged to send their comments on a computer disk, or via e-mail to [king.darrin@dol.gov](mailto:king.darrin@dol.gov), along with an original printed copy. Mr. King can be reached at (202) 693–9838 (voice) or 202–693–9801 (facsimile).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A copy of the proposed information collection request and further information may be obtained by contacting Darrin King, Chief, Records Management Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2139, Arlington, VA 22209–3939. Mr. King can be reached at [king.darrin@dol.gov](mailto:king.darrin@dol.gov) (Internet e-mail), (202) 693–9838 (voice), or (202) 693–9801 (facsimile).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Background**

Under section 313 of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), 30 U.S.C. 873, a mine operator is required to use permissible explosives in underground coal mines. The Mine Act also provides that under safeguards prescribed by the Secretary of Labor, a mine operator may permit the firing of more than 20 shots and the use of nonpermissible explosives in sinking shafts and slopes from the surface in rock. Title 30 CFR 75.1321 outlines the procedures by which a permit may be issued for the firing of more than 20 boreholes and/or the use of nonpermissible shot-firing units in underground coal mines. In those instances in which there is a misfire of explosives, 30 CFR 75.1327 requires that a qualified person post each accessible entrance to the affected area with a warning to prohibit entry. Title 30 CFR 77.1909–1 outlines the procedures by which a coal mine operator may apply for a permit to use nonpermissible explosives and/or shot-firing units in the blasting of rock while sinking shafts or slopes for underground coal mines.

**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.

**III. Current Actions**

Title 30 CFR 75.1321, 75.1327 and 77.1901–1 provide MSHA District Managers with the authority to address unusual but reoccurring blasting practices needed for breaking rock types more resilient than coal and for misfires in blasting coal. MSHA uses the information requested to issue permits to mine operators or shaft and slope

contractors for the use of nonpermissible explosives and/or shot-firing units under 30 CFR part 77, subpart T—Slope and Shaft Sinking. Similar permits are issued by MSHA to underground coal mine operators for shooting more than 20 bore holes and/or for the use of nonpermissible shot firing units when requested under 30 CFR part 75, subpart N—Explosives and Blasting. The approved permits allow the use of specific equipment and explosives in limited applications and

under exceptional circumstances where standard coal blasting techniques or equipment is inadequate to the task. These permits inform mine management and the miners of the steps to be employed to protect the safety of any person exposed to such blasting while using nonpermissible items. Also, the posting of danger/warning signs at entrances to locations where an misfired blast hole or round remains indisposed is a safety precaution predating the Coal Mine Safety and Health Act.

*Type of Review:* Extension (without change).

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration.

*Title:* Application for a Permit to Fire More than 20 Boreholes for the use of Nonpermissible Blasting Units, Explosives, and Shot-firing Units.

*OMB Number:* 1219-0025.

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

Cite/reference	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response	Burden (hours)
75.1321 Permit Appl .....	19	On Occasion ..	19	1 hour .....	19
75.1327 Misfire Notices Posted .....	57	On Occasion ..	57	20 minutes ...	19
77.1909-1 Permit APL .....	29	On Occasion ..	29	1 hour .....	29
Totals .....	.....	.....	105	.....	67

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

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining):* \$588.

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 26th day of February, 2004.

**David L. Meyer,**

*Director, Office of Administration and Management.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510-43-P**

accessibility features and/or auxiliary aids, such as sign language interpreters, must inform the Commission in advance of those needs. Subject to 29 CFR 2706.150(a)(3) and 2706.160(d).

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFO:** Jean Ellen, (202) 434-9950/(202) 708-9300 for TDD Relay/1-800-877-8339 for toll free.

**Jean H. Ellen,**

*Chief Docket Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 04-5011 Filed 3-2-04; 3:46 pm]

**BILLING CODE 6735-01-M**

Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Ms. Nancy Kaplan, NASA Reports Officer, NASA Headquarters, 300 E Street, SW., Code VE, Washington, DC 20546, (202) 358-1372.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) plans to renew an ongoing collection designed to collect information needed to evaluate bids and proposals from offerors to award purchase orders and to use bank cards for required goods and services with an estimated value of \$100,000 or less. Bids are requested and evaluated in accordance with the OFPP Policy Act as amended by Pub. L. 96-83, the NASA Space Act, 42 U.S.C. 2451 *et seq.* As the need arises for goods and services valued at less than \$100,000, NASA follows the procedures set forth in part 13 of the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and part 1813 of the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) before an order can be awarded. Similarly, quotes voluntarily submitted in response to Request for Quotations (RFQs), contractors must furnish all information required by the FAR, the NFS, and Agency needs. This solicited information is used by NASA project and procurement managers in the selection of contractors for goods and services required to meet the Agency's mission.

**FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act; Meeting**

February 24, 2004.

**TIME AND DATE:** 2 p.m., Thursday, February 26, 2004.

**PLACE:** Hearing Room, 9th Floor, 601 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

**STATUS:** Open.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** The Commission will hear oral argument on an appeal of Rag Cumberland Resources LP from the decision of an administrative law judge in *Secretary of Labor v. Rag Cumberland Resources LP*, Docket Nos. PENN 2000-181-R *et al.* (Issues include whether the judge correctly determined that the operator violated 30 CFR 75.334(b) and 75.363(a).) No earlier announcement of the oral argument was possible.

Any person attending this oral argument who requires special

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

[04-036]

**Notice of Information Collection Under OMB Review**

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection under OMB review.

**SUMMARY:** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** All comments should be submitted within 30 calendar days from the date of this publication.

**ADDRESSES:** All comments should be addressed to Desk Officer for NASA, Office of Information and Regulatory