

the Agency also noted that additional time and information is needed to make decisions on the type, amount, and location of post-accident breathable air to be furnished for trapped miners.

On August 4, 2006, MSHA reissued the PPL (as PPL Number P06-V-9) to include an alternative to the distance table for self-contained self-rescuer (SCSR) storage locations to allow mine operators to use a functionality test to establish distances between SCSR storage locations.

At this time, MSHA is soliciting information from the mining community on topics related to post-accident breathable air that would be sufficient to maintain miners trapped underground for a sustained period of time.

The MINER Act requires that all approved plans:

(1) Afford miners a level of safety protection at least consistent with the existing standards, including standards mandated by law and regulation;

(2) Reflect the most recent credible scientific research;

(3) Be technologically feasible, make use of current commercially available technology, and account for the specific physical characteristics of the mine; and

(4) Reflect the improvements in mine safety gained from experience under this Act and other worker safety and health laws.

In making decisions on requirements for post-accident breathable air provisions in the plan, MSHA will take these factors into consideration. Please consider these factors as you develop your responses.

When answering the questions below, please key your response to the topic and number of the question, and explain the reasons supporting your views.

Please provide relevant information on which you rely, including, but not limited to, past experience, as well as data, studies and articles, and standard professional practices. Include any data related to technological feasibility or other related issues.

#### Issues on Which Information is Requested

MSHA requests information on the following issues related to the breathable air provision of the MINER Act:

##### A. Emergency Supply of Breathable Air

1. What factors should MSHA consider in determining a "sustained period of time?" Should a specific time period be adopted? If so, what is the appropriate time period and why? The Agency has received suggestions ranging from one hour of post-accident

breathable air to a continuous supply. Please include the rationale for the recommended period of time.

2. Should factors such as mine size, mine design and layout, number of miners potentially affected, and distance from the portals to the working section be used, and if so, how, in determining the sufficient quantity of breathable air? What other factors should be considered and how should they be considered?

3. Where should the post-accident breathable air supply be located in relation to: working sections; outby work stations; and along travel routes?

4. The MINER Act requires that plans be periodically updated to reflect changes in operations in the mine. What specific changes in operations would result in a need to update the breathable air provision of the plan?

##### B. Oxygen Sources

1. Please provide information and make recommendations on the best way to provide breathable air. Please elaborate on the arguments for and against using oxygen, compressed air, or chemically-induced oxygen to maintain trapped miners for a sustained period of time. What other available means of technology appropriate to maintain miners would you recommend, and why?

2. MSHA solicits information on how compressed air lines routed through mine openings could be protected against damage from explosion or fire. How could techniques such as burying or armoring air lines provide adequate protection?

3. MSHA solicits information on availability and possible obstacles in developing and deploying systems for providing oxygen.

##### C. Emergency Shelters

Section 13 of the MINER Act requires the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to conduct research concerning various types of refuge alternatives, including commercially-available portable refuge chambers. In the interim, MSHA solicits comments on the use of emergency shelters which contain sufficient quantities of post-accident breathable air to maintain trapped miners.

1. Until specifications for refuge alternatives are developed, what type of emergency shelters (e.g., inflatable or other portable quick-deploy designs) should be provided, what safety features should they offer, where should they be located, and why?

2. How should the use of emergency shelters be tied to emergency supplies of breathable air?

3. If post-accident breathable air is provided through emergency shelters, provide information on appropriate distances between installations and proximity to working sections. Please provide specific feasibility considerations, if any.

4. Under what circumstances, if any, could a barricade be used as an emergency shelter to provide post-accident breathable air?

Dated: August 25, 2006.

**David G. Dye,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. 06-7260 Filed 8-29-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-P

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-1218-0184 (2006)]

#### Standard on 4,4'-Methylenedianiline (MDA) in General Industry; 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 public comment.

**SUMMARY:** OSHA requests public comment concerning its proposed extension of the information collection requirements specified by the Standard on 4,4'-Methylenedianiline in General Industry (29 CFR 1910.1050). The standard protects employees from the adverse health effects that may result from occupational exposure to MDA, including cancer and liver disease.

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

*Hard copy:* Your comments must be submitted (postmarked or received) by October 30, 2006.

*Facsimile and electronic transmission:* Your comments must be received by October 30, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by OSHA Docket No. ICR-1218-0184 (2006), by any of the following methods:

#### I. Submission of Comments

*Regular mail, express delivery, hand delivery, and messenger service:* Submit your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Room N-2625, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-2350 (OSHA's TTY number is (877) 889-5627). OSHA Docket Office and

Department of Labor hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., e.t.

**Facsimile:** If your comments are 10 pages or fewer in length, including attachments, you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-1648.

**Electronic:** You may submit comments through the Internet at <http://ecomments.osha.gov>. Follow instructions on the OSHA Web page for submitting comments.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read or download comments or background materials, such as the complete Information Collection Request (ICR) (containing the Supporting Statement, OMB-83-I Form, and attachments), go to OSHA's Web page at <http://www.OSHA.gov>. In addition, the ICR, comments, and submissions are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office at the address above. You may also contact Todd Owen at the address below to obtain a copy of the ICR. For additional information on submitting comments, please see the "Public Participation" section in

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jamaa Hill or 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 Standard on 4,4'-Methylenedianiline in General Industry (the "Standard") protect employees from the adverse health

effects that may result from their exposure to MDA, including cancer and liver disease. The major paperwork requirements specify that employers must develop a written emergency plan for each workplace where there is a possibility of an emergency (*i.e.*, an unexpected and potentially hazardous release of MDA); perform initial, periodic, and additional exposure monitoring; and notifying each employee in writing within 15 days after the receipt of exposure-monitoring results, either individually or by posting. In addition, employers must perform routine visual inspections of the hands, face, and forearms of each employee potentially exposed to MDA for signs of dermal exposure to MDA and, if they determine that employees have been exposed to MDA, they must maintain records of the corrective actions taken. Employers must also: Establish and implement a written compliance program and implement a respiratory protection program in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.134 (OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard).

Employers must label any container of MDA-contaminated protective work clothing or equipment that will be taken out of changing rooms or other workplace areas for cleaning, maintenance, or disposal. Employers must also inform personnel who launder MDA-contaminated clothing of the requirement to prevent release of MDA, while personnel who launder or clear MDA-contaminated protective clothing or equipment must receive information about the potentially harmful effects of MDA. In addition, employers are to post and maintain legible warning signs demarcating regulated areas and entrances or accessways to regulated areas, as well as provide employees with information and training on the Standard and specific components of the MDA program at the time of their initial assignment, and at least annually thereafter; employers must provide employees, OSHA, and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health ("NIOSH") with access to the training materials.

Additional paperwork provisions of the Standard require employers to provide employees with medical examinations, including initial, periodic, emergency, and additional examinations. Under specified conditions, employers also must establish a multiple-physician review mechanism to provide employees with a second opinion regarding the results of these medical examinations and a program to remove employees from

MDA exposure. 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 recordkeeping provisions require employers to establish and maintain records of the monitoring data or objective data they use to gain an exemption from the Standard, as well as exposure-monitoring, medical surveillance, and medical removal information collected under the Standard. Employers also must make any required record available to OSHA compliance officers and 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 without a successor employer to receive and retain records for the required periods 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 employees, 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 Standard 4,4'-Methylenedianiline in General Industry (29 CFR 1910.1050), and to decrease the total burden hour estimate by two hours. The Agency will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice, and will include this summary in this request to OMB to extend the approval of these information collection requirements.

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

*Title:* 4,4'-Methylenedianiline Standard in General Industry (29 CFR 1910.1050).

*OMB Number:* 1218-0184.

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

*Number of Respondents:* 13.

*Frequency of Recordkeeping:* On occasion; quarterly; semi-annually; annually.

*Average Time per Response:* Varies from five minutes (.08 hours) to provide information to the physician to two hours to perform periodic monitoring.

*Total Annual Hours Requested:* 293.

*Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance):* \$19,037.

#### IV. Authority and Signature

Edwin G. Foulke, Jr., 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 August 24, 2006.

**Edwin G. Foulke, Jr.,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor.*

[FR Doc. 06-7254 Filed 8-29-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-26-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Occupational Safety and Health Administration

#### Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health; Notice of Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (MACOSH); Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (MACOSH) was established to advise the Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA on issued relating to occupational safety and health in the maritime industries. The purpose of this **Federal Register** notice is to announce to MACOSH meeting scheduled for September 2006.

**DATES:** The Committee will meet on September 26, 2006 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and September 27, 2006 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The Committee will meet at the U.S. Department of Labor, 200

Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. On Tuesday September 26, the Committee will meet in conference room C-5521 room #4; on Wednesday September 27, the Committee will meet in conference room N-3437 rooms A, B, and C. Mail comments, views, or statements in response to this notice to Jim Maddux, Director, Office of Maritime, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; phone (202) 693-2086; FAX: (202) 693-1663.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general information about MACOSH, and this meeting contact: Jim Maddux, Director, Office of Maritime, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; phone (202) 693-2086. Individuals with disabilities wishing to attend the meeting should contact Vanessa L. Welch at (202) 693-2086 no later than September 19, 2006 to obtain appropriate accommodations.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** All MACOSH meetings, including work group meetings, are open to the public. All interested persons are invited to attend the MACOSH meetings at the times and places listed above. Since the Committee has just been re-established, and his nine new members, the agenda will include discussions of OSHA's programs and activities such as: Standards and guidance; enforcement; cooperative programs; and science, technology and medicine. The agenda will also include discussions on forming MACOSH work groups; identification of maritime safety and health issues; radiation screening of cargo containers and general administrative procedures.

*Public Participation:* Written data, views or comments for consideration by MACOSH on the various agenda items listed above should be submitted to vanessa L. Welch at the address listed above. Submissions received by September 12, 2006, will be provided to Committee members and will be included in the record of the meeting. Requests to make oral presentations to the Committee may be granted as time permits. anyone wishing to make an oral presentation to the committee on any of the agenda items listed above should notify Vanessa L. Welch by September 12, 2006. The request should state the amount of time desired, the capacity in which the person will appear, and a brief outline of the content of the presentation.

**Authority:** Edwin G. Foulke, Jr., Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this notice under the authority granted by 6(b)(1)

and 7(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 655, 656), the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2), and 29 CFR part 1912.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 23rd day of August, 2006.

**Edwin G. Foulke, Jr.,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor.*

[FR Doc. 06-7237 Filed 8-29-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-26-M**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), and as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the National Science Foundation invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this information collection.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received by October 30, 2006 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments regarding the information collection and requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 201 Wilson Blvd., Rm 295, Arlington, VA 22230, or by e-mail to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@nsf.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Suzanne Plimpton, the NSF Reports Clearance Officer, phone (703) 292-7556, or send e-mail to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@nsf.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Generic Clearance of the Science Resources Statistics Survey Improvement Projects.

*OMB Approval Number:* 3145-0174.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* December 31, 2009.

*Abstract:* Generic Clearance of the Science Resources Statistics Survey Improvement Projects. The National Science Foundation's Division of Science Resources Statistics (NSF/SRS) needs to collect timely data on constant changes in the science and technology sector and to provide the most complete