

relevant period, the subject company did not import plywood or shift production of plywood overseas and that the subject company's only customer did not import plywood.

The Union requests that the Department investigate whether the subject company or its customers imported oriented strand board (OSB), a product which is like and directly competitive with plywood.

The Department has carefully reviewed the Union's request for reconsideration and has determined that the Department will conduct further investigation.

### Conclusion

After careful review of the application, I conclude that the claim is of sufficient weight to justify reconsideration of the Department of Labor's prior decision. The application is, therefore, granted.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 12th day of September 2006.

**Elliott S. Kushner,**

*Certifying Officer, Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance.*

[FR Doc. E6-15631 Filed 9-20-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-30-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### Proposed Collection of the ETA 205, Preliminary Estimates of Average Employer Contribution Rates; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on a proposed continuance for a collection 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 Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the ETA 205, Preliminary Estimates of Average Employer Contribution Rates. A

copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice or by accessing: <http://www.doleta.gov/Performance/guidance/OMBControlNumber.cfm>.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before November 20, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Subri Raman, Office of Workforce Security, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-4231, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone number (202) 693-3058; fax:(202) 693-3229 (these are not toll-free numbers) or e-mail: [raman.subri@dol.gov](mailto:raman.subri@dol.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. *Background:* The ETA 205 reports preliminary information on the taxation efforts in states relative to taxable and total wages and allows for comparison among states. The information is used for projecting unemployment insurance tax revenues for the Federal budget process as well as for actuarial analyses of the Unemployment Trust Fund. The data is published in several forms and is often requested by data users. In addition, this report helps to fulfill two statutory requirements. Section 3302(d)(7) of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) requires the Secretary of Labor to determine and notify "the Secretary of the Treasury before June 1 of each year, on the basis of a report furnished by such state to the Secretary of Labor before May 1 of such year" of certain percentages computed according to sections 3302(c)(2)(B) and (C) from the average tax rates for states with outstanding Title XII advances, which are then used to calculate the loss of FUTA offset credit for these states. In addition, the tax schedules are used to assure that states are in compliance with provisions of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (Pub. L. 97-248), section 281.

II. *Review Focus:* The Department of Labor 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 clarify 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:

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Employment and Training Administration.

*Title:* Preliminary Estimates of Average Employer Contribution Rates. *OMB Number:* 1205-0228.

*Agency Number:* ETA.

*Affected Public:* State Governments.

*Cite/Reference/Form/etc:* ETA 205.

*Total Respondents:* 53.

*Frequency:* Annual.

*Total Responses:* 53.

*Average Time per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 14.

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$0.00.

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: September 12, 2006.

**Cheryl Atkinson,**

*Administrator, Office of Workforce Security.*

[FR Doc. 06-7909 Filed 9-20-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-30-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a pre-clearance 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 Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of data collection for the ETA Form 9117 (formerly ETA-9023), Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Reserve Funding Request Form (1205-0275, expires 12/31/2006). A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before November 20, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Erica R. Cantor, Administrator, Office of National Response, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room C-5311, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210. Phone (202) 693-2757 (this is not a toll-free number), fax (202) 693-3584, or e-mail [cantor.eric@dol.gov](mailto:cantor.eric@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

I. *Background:* The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) and Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA) programs provide assistance to workers that have been adversely affected by foreign trade. Under the Trade Act of 1974, as amended by the Trade Reform Act of 2002, the statutory training cap is \$220 million each year, with additional funding available for job search and relocation allowances and State administration. To be eligible for TAA or ATAA benefits, a group of workers, a company official, a union or other duly authorized representative, or a One Stop Operator or partner must file

a petition with the Department of Labor. If the Department determines that the workers meet the statutory criteria, it issues a certification of eligibility for the workers in the group to apply for benefits and services through partnerships between the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) and the One Stop Career Center system. On average, approximately 120,000 workers are potentially eligible to apply for TAA benefits and services each year. Of those potentially eligible, roughly 40,000 individuals begin receiving TAA-funded benefits and services each year. In addition, 40,000 individuals who began receiving services in previous years continue to receive them.

II. *Review Focus:* The Department of Labor 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:* This is a notice to extend the collection period that is

currently approved by OMB (1205-0275 expires December 31, 2006).

The ETA-9117 (formerly ETA-9023) has been successfully utilized by the ETA and SWAs since its implementation in July 2004. The Department distributes \$165 million of the \$220 million appropriation available for TAA training at the beginning of each fiscal year as formula base allocations. The remaining training funds or \$55 million is held in reserve by the Department to support States that experience large unanticipated layoffs that cannot be covered by their formula base allocation. The reserve funds are requested using the ETA-9117 (formerly ETA-9023) which provides essential information needed to determine the reasonableness of requests for TAA reserve funding such as the number of individuals currently enrolled in training that require additional funding through the current fiscal year; the number of new enrollees that require funding through the current fiscal year; the number of individuals requesting job search and relocation allowances; accrual expenditures for the most recent available funds; active certifications; and the circumstances necessitating the request for additional funding.

*Type of Review:* Extension and revision of a currently approved collection.

*Agency:* Employment and Training Administration.

*Title:* Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Reserve Funding Request Form. OMB Number: 1205-0275.

*Agency Number:* ETA-9117 (formerly ETA-9023).

*Affected Public:* State, local or tribal Government.

*Total Respondents:* 25.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 75.

Cite/reference	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response (hours)	Total requested burden
TAA Reserve Request Form .....	25	On occasion ...	25	3	75

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: September 11, 2006.

**Erica R. Cantor,**  
Administrator, Office of National Response.  
[FR Doc. 06-7936 Filed 9-20-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-30-P**

**MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection**

**AGENCY:** Merit Systems Protection Board.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) intends to request approval of a revised information collection from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under

the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506 and 3507). The currently approved information collection is the MSPB Appeal Form, MSPB Form 185 (OMB Control Number 3124-0009). The MSPB intends to make one substantive change to the information collected on the MSPB Appeal Form: Individuals who file appeals with the MSPB will be required to provide the last four digits of their Social Security numbers. In addition, several minor edits have been made to the Appeal Form to make the process