DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for 1029–0089

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 authority for the following collection of information: 30 CFR part 702 regarding the exemption of coal extraction incidental to the extraction of other minerals. This information collection activity was previously approved by the Office of the Management and Budget (OMB), and assigned clearance number 1029–0089.

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by February 6, 2007, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW., Room 202—SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to jtrelease@osmre.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the information collection request and explanatory information contact John A. Trelease, at (202) 208–2783 or e-mail at the address provided above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 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 an information collection that OSM will be submitting to OMB for approval. This collection is contained in 30 CFR Part 702, Exemption for Coal Extraction Incidental to the Extraction of Other Minerals. 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.

The following information is provided for each information collection: (1) Title of the information collection; (2) OMB control summary of the information collection activity; and (4) frequency of collection, description of the respondents, estimated total annual responses, and the total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden for the collection of information.

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

OMB Control Number: 1029–0089.

Summary: This part implements the requirement of Section 702(g) 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 16½ percentage tonnage of coal incidental to the extraction of other minerals. This information will be used by the regulatory authorities to make that determination.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Solicitor; Public Forum on the Department of Labor Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Improvement Plan

AGENCY: Office of the Solicitor (SOL), Department of Labor.

ACTION: Scheduling of public forum; invitation to participate and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor is scheduling a public forum to seek input from the public on how it might improve the quality and efficiency of the Department’s administration of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). This forum is part of the Department’s FOIA Improvement Plan finalized earlier in 2006. Interested persons are encouraged to submit written comments in response to the questions contained in this notice and offer additional suggestions for improving the quality and efficiency of the Department’s FOIA efforts. Attendees are invited to speak on these questions and other related issues at the public forum; those who only wish to observe the forum are welcome to attend as well. The Department’s FOIA Improvement Plan is available at http://www.dol.gov/dol/foia/ (see link for “Agency Plan and Report”).

Background: On June 14, 2006, the Department submitted its FOIA Improvement Plan and Report pursuant to Executive Order 13392 (“Improving Agency Disclosure of Information”). As part of its FOIA Improvement Plan, the Department has been examining various components of its FOIA practices and