

Signed at Washington, DC, this 26th of June, 2007.

**Gay M. Gilbert,**

*Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration.*

[FR Doc. E7-12739 Filed 6-29-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-FN-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Mine Safety and Health Administration

#### **Proposed Information Collection Request; Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Qualification/Certification Program Request for MSHA; Individual Identification Number (MIIN)**

**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 containing 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.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before August 31, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to, Debbie Ferraro, Management Services Division, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2171, Arlington, VA 22209-3939. Commenters are encouraged to send their comments on computer disk, or via e-mail to [Ferraro.Debbie@DOL.GOV](mailto:Ferraro.Debbie@DOL.GOV). Ms. Ferraro can be reached at (202) 693-9821 (voice), or (202) 693-9801 (facsimile).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact the employee listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background**

MSHA currently uses qualification and certification information on miners who have satisfactorily completed required training and examinations to issue cards indicating the licensure of that miner. MSHA inspectors, during inspections, review these cards to determine compliance with regulations. In addition, miners, when applying for a job, use these cards as a part of their

resumes. Mine operators needing people with specific certifications, qualifications and approvals hire and assign work relying on the information provided on the cards.

The information is also used to determine mine operators' compliance with approved training plans and to monitor safety-training programs and during investigations including accident and legal proceedings to revoke the qualifications/certifications and approvals of individuals based on a fraudulent reporting of training or performance. Upon request, MSHA furnishes information on specific miners to mine operators and representatives of miners.

The information also is used to verify whether individuals who complete and sign dust data cards that accompany dust samples collected fulfill the sampling requirements of 30 CFR part 70, 71 or 90. It also enables the Agency to track underground miners who show early evidence of the development of pneumoconiosis and have exercised their option to work in a low dust environment under 30 CFR part 90 to determine if they have been adequately sampled by mine operators and are in compliance with federal dust standards.

##### **II. Desired Focus of Comments**

Currently, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection requirement related to conversion of Social Security Numbers to MSHA Individual Identification Numbers. MSHA is particularly interested in comments that:

- \* Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of MSHA's functions, including whether the information has practical utility;
- \* Evaluate the accuracy of MSHA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- \* Suggest methods to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- \* Address 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) to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the employee listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice or

viewed on the internet by accessing the MSHA home page (<http://www.msha.gov/>) and selecting "Rules and Regs", then selecting "Fed Reg Docs."

##### **III. Current Actions**

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) issues certifications, qualifications and approvals (licenses) to the nation's miners to conduct specific work within the mines. Currently, Social Security Numbers (SSNs) are utilized for tracking purposes within MSHA's data processing systems, in the absence of other reliable identification systems. In an effort to reduce use of SSNs both by MSHA and third parties, MSHA is changing the process to one in which miners requiring a license or benefit from MSHA will register for an "MSHA Individual Identification Number" (MIIN). This unique number will be used in place of individual SSNs for all licensing requirements within MSHA. This new process will allow MSHA to discontinue the past practice of individuals supplying their personally identifiable information to instructors, states or other entities, which in turn supply that information to MSHA. Miners needing a license or benefit from MSHA will need to register only one time to obtain their MIINs from MSHA.

*Type of Review:* New Collection.

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration.

*Title:* Qualification/Certification Program Request for MSHA Individual Identification Number (MIIN).

*OMB Number:* 1219-0NEW.

*Recordkeeping:* 3 years.

*Frequency:* On Occasion.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for profit.

*Total Respondents:* 40,000 first year; 10,000 thereafter.

*Total Responses:* 40,000 first year; 10,000 thereafter.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 3,332 first year; 2,083 second year; 833 thereafter.

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$10,881 first year.

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining):* \$7,293 second year; \$2,900 thereafter.

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 June, 2007.

David L. Meyer,

Director, Office of Administration and Management.

[FR Doc. E7-12671 Filed 6-29-07; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Mine Safety and Health Administration

#### Petitions for Modification

**AGENCY:** Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice of petitions for modification of existing mandatory safety standards.

**SUMMARY:** Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 and 30 CFR Part 44 govern the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for modification. This notice is a summary of petitions for modification filed by the parties listed below to modify the application of existing mandatory safety standards published in Title 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

**DATES:** Comments on the petitions must be received by the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances on or before August 1, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit your comments, identified by "docket number" on the subject line, by any of the following methods:

1. *E-Mail:* Standards-Petitions@dol.gov.

2. *Telefax:* 1-202-693-9441.

3. *Hand-Delivery or Regular Mail:* Submit comments to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2349, Arlington, Virginia 22209, Attention: Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

We will consider only comments postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or proof of delivery from another delivery service such as UPS or Federal Express on or before the deadline for comments. Individuals who submit comments by hand-delivery are required to check in at the receptionist desk on the 21st floor.

Individuals may inspect copies of the petitions and comments during normal business hours at the address listed above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Edward Sexauer, Chief, Regulatory Development Division at 202-693-9444 (Voice), [sexauer.edward@dol.gov](mailto:sexauer.edward@dol.gov) (E-

mail), or 202-693-9441 (Telefax), or contact Barbara Barron at 202-693-9447 (Voice), [barron.barbara@dol.gov](mailto:barron.barbara@dol.gov) (E-mail), or 202-693-9441 (Telefax). [These are not toll-free numbers].

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act) allows the mine operator or representative of miners to file a petition to modify the application of any mandatory safety standard to a coal or other mine if the Secretary determines that: (1) An alternative method of achieving the result of such standard exists which will at all times guarantee no less than the same measure of protection afforded the miners of such mine by such standard; or (2) that the application of such standard to such mine will result in a diminution of safety to the miners in such mine. In addition, the regulations at 30 CFR 44.10 and 44.11 establish the requirements and procedures for filing petitions for modifications.

##### II. Petitions for Modification

*Docket Number:* M-2007-027-C.

*Petitioner:* Chestnut Coal Company, RD 3, Box 142B, Sunbury, Pennsylvania 17801.

*Mine:* No. 12 Slope Mine, (MSHA I.D. No. 36-09493), located in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania.

*Regulation Affected:* 30 CFR 49.2(b) (Availability of mine rescue teams).

*Modification Request:* The petitioner requests a modification of the existing standard to permit the use of two mine rescue teams of three members with one alternate for either team instead of two teams of five members and one alternate for each team. The petitioner states that: (1) The underground anthracite mine is small and cannot accommodate more than three or four miners in the working places; (2) to use five or more rescue team members in the confined working places of the mine would result in a diminution of safety to the miners and the members of the mine rescue team; (3) the risk of disaster is considerably reduced because the electric power does not reach beyond the bottom of the slope and coal is hauled by hand trammed cars or battery electric motor; (4) rescue and recovery operations at other mines have utilized only one team; and (5) the Pennsylvania Deep Mine Safety and other surrounding mines will provide assistance in an emergency. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method will in no way provide less than the same measure of protection afforded the miners under the existing standard.

*Docket Number:* M-2007-028-C.

*Petitioner:* Chestnut Coal Company, RD 3, Box 142B, Sunbury, Pennsylvania 17801.

*Mine:* No. 12 Slope Mine, (MSHA I.D. No. 36-09493), located in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania.

*Regulation Affected:* 30 CFR 49.6(a)(1) & (5) (Equipment and maintenance requirements).

*Modification Request:* The petitioner requests a modification of the existing standard to permit the use of eight self-contained breathing apparatus and eight permissible cap lamps and charging rack instead of using twelve self-contained oxygen breathing apparatus and twelve permissible cap lamps and charging rack at each mine rescue station for its seven member rescue team. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would not alter, change, or reduce the ability, effectiveness or safety of the underground mine personnel.

*Docket Number:* M-2007-029-C.

*Petitioner:* Chestnut Coal Company, RD 3, Box 142B, Sunbury, Pennsylvania 17801.

*Mine:* No. 12 Slope Mine, (MSHA I.D. No. 36-09493), located in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania.

*Regulation Affected:* 30 CFR 75.335 (Construction of seals).

*Modification Request:* The petitioner requests a modification of the existing standard to permit an alternative method of construction of seals. The petitioner proposes to use wooden material of moderate size and weight due to the difficulty in accessing previously driven headings and breasts containing the inaccessible abandoned workings, through the use of homemade ladders. The petitioner states that to transport concrete blocks or equivalent materials manually on ladders on pitching veins will expose miners to greater hazards of falling, being struck by falling materials, or resulting in strains or sprains because of the weight of the materials. The petitioner cites low-level explosibility of anthracite coal dust and minimal potential for either an accumulation of methane in previously mined pitching veins or an ignition source in the gob area, as justification for the proposed 10 psi design. The petitioner states that the mine has not experienced measurable liberations of methane to date. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the existing standard.

*Docket Number:* M-2007-030-C.

*Petitioner:* Chestnut Coal Company, RD 3, Box 142B, Sunbury, Pennsylvania 17801.