DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[TA–W–62,858]

Household Utilities, Inc., Kiel, WI; Notice of Revised Determination on Reconsideration

On April 17, 2008, the Department issued an Affirmative Determination Regarding Application on Reconsideration applicable to workers and former workers of the subject firm. The notice was published in the Federal Register on April 23, 2008 (73 FR 21988).

The previous investigation initiated on February 15, 2008, resulted in a negative determination issued on March 5, 2008, was based on the finding that sales and production of industrial parts, medical carts and medical cabinets increased in 2007 as compared to 2006 and no shift in production to a foreign source occurred. The denial notice was published in the Federal Register on March 21, 2008 (73 FR 15218).

In the request for reconsideration, the petitioner alleged that sales and production decreased in 2008 and customers of the subject firm shifted production abroad.

The Department requested from the subject firm sales and production information for January and February 2008. New information revealed that sales and production of industrial parts, medical carts and medical cabinets decreased in January and February 2008 when compared with the same period in 2007.

Upon further investigation it has also been determined that Household Utilities, Inc., Kiel, Wisconsin, supplied industrial parts for marine outboard motors and plastic molded parts, and at least 20 percent of its production or sales is supplied to a manufacturer whose workers were certified eligible to apply for adjustment assistance. The parts supplied were related to the article that was the basis of certification.

In accordance with Section 246 of the Trade Act of 1974 (26 U.S.C. 2813), as amended, the Department of Labor herein presents the results of its investigation regarding certification of eligibility to apply for alternative trade adjustment assistance (ATAA) for older workers.

In order for the Department to issue a certification of eligibility to apply for ATAA, the group eligibility requirements of Section 246 of the Trade Act must be met. The Department has determined in this case that the requirements of Section 246 have been met.

A significant number of workers at the firm are age 50 or over and possess skills that are not easily transferable. Competitive conditions within the industry are adverse.

Conclusion

After careful review of the additional facts obtained on reconsideration, I determine that workers of Household Utilities, Inc., Kiel, Wisconsin, qualify as adversely affected secondary workers under Section 222 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, I make the following certification:

All workers of Household Utilities, Inc., Kiel, Wisconsin, who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after February 13, 2007, through two years from the date of this certification, are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 222 of the Trade Act of 1974, and are also eligible to apply for alternative trade adjustment assistance under Section 246 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 29th day of May 2008.

Elliott S. Kushner,
Certifying Officer, Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

BILLING CODE 4510–FN–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration

Proposed Extension of the Approval of Information Collection Requirements

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 (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 Standards Administration is soliciting comments concerning its proposal to extend OMB approval of the information collection: Payment of Compensation Without Award (LS–206). A copy of the proposed information collection request 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 ADDRESSES section below on or before August 4, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Ms. Hazel M. Bell, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S–3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693–0418, fax (202) 693–1451, e-mail bell.hazel@dol.gov. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or e-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: I. Background: The Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act (LHWCA). The Act provides benefits to workers injured in maritime employment on the navigable waters of the United States or in adjoining areas customarily used by an employer in loading, unloading, repairing or building a vessel. Under sections 914(b) and (c) of the Longshore Act, a self-insured employer or insurance carrier is required to pay compensation within 14 days after the employer has knowledge of the injury or death. Upon making the first payment, the employer or carrier shall immediately notify the district director of payment. Form LS–206 has been designated as the proper form on which report of first payment is to be made. The LS–206 is also used by OWCP district offices to determine the payment status of a given case. This information collection is currently approved for use through December 31, 2008.

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 submission of responses.

III. Current Actions: The Department of Labor seeks the approval of the extension of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to meet the statutory requirements to provide compensation or death benefits under the Act to workers covered under the Act.

Type of Review: Extension.
Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Titles: Payment of Compensation Without Award.
OMB Number: 1215–0022.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Total Respondents: 600.
Total Annual Responses: 21,000.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: 5,250.
Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes.
Frequency: On occasion.
Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): $0.
Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): $10,395.00.

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.

Hazel M. Bell,
[FR Doc. E8–12334 Filed 6–3–08; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration

Proposed Revision of the Approval of Information Collection Requirements

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 Employment Standards Administration is soliciting comments concerning its proposal to extend OMB approval of the information collection: Agreement and Undertaking (OWCP–1). A copy of the proposed information collection request 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 ADDRESSES section below on or before August 4, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Ms. Hazel M. Bell, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S–3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693–0418, fax (202) 693–1451, e-mail bell.hazel@dol.gov. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or e-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: I. Background: Coal Mine operators desiring to be self-insurers are required by law (30 U.S.C. 933) to produce security in terms of an indemnity bond, security deposit, a letter of credit or 501(c)(21) trust. Once a company’s application to become self-insured is reviewed by the Division of Coal Mine Workers; Compensation (DCMWC) and it is determined the company is potentially eligible, an amount of security is determined to guarantee the payment of benefits required by the Act. The OWCP–1 form is executed by the self-insurer who agrees to abide by the Department’s rules and authorizes the Secretary, in the event of default, to file suit to secure payment from a bond underwriter or in the case of a Federal Reserve account, to sell the securities for the same purpose. A company cannot be authorized to self-insure until this requirement is met. Regulations establishing this requirement are at 20 CFR 726.110 for Black Lung. This information collection is currently approved for use through December 31, 2008.

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: The Department of Labor seeks the approval of the extension of this currently approved information collection in order to determine if a coal mine company is potentially eligible to become self-insured. The information is reviewed to insure that the correct amounts of negotiable securities are deposited or indemnity bond is purchased and that in a case of default OWCP has the authority to utilize the securities or bond. If this Agreement and Undertaking were not required, OWCP would not be empowered to utilize the company’s security deposit to meet its financial responsibilities for the payment of black lung benefits in case of default.

Type of Review: Revision.
Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Titles: Agreement of Undertaking.
OMB Number: 1215–0034.
Agency Numbers: OWCP–1.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Total Respondents: 20.
Total Annual Responses: 20.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: 5.
Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes.
Frequency: On occasion.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): $0.
Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): $9.00.

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.