• 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,

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BILLING CODE 4510–CF–P

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.
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Employment Standards Administration

Proposed Extension of the Approval 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: Certificate of Medical Necessity (CM). 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:

1. Background: The Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs administers the Federal Black Lung Workers’ Compensation Program. The enabling regulations of the Black Lung Benefits Act, at 20 CFR 725.701, establishes miner eligibility for medical services and supplies for the length of time required by the miner’s condition and disability. 20 CFR 706 stipulates there must be prior approval before ordering an apparatus where the purchase price exceeds $300.00. 20 CFR 725.707 provides for the ongoing supervision of the miner’s medical care, including the necessity, character and sufficiency of care to be furnished; gives the authority to request medical reports and indicates the right to refuse payment for failing to submit any report required. Because of the above legislation and regulations, it was necessary to devise a form to collect the required information. The CM–893, Certificate of Medical Necessity is completed by the coal miner’s doctor and is used by the Division of Coal Mine Worker’s Compensation to determine if the miner meets impairment standards to qualify for durable medical equipment, home nursing, and/or pulmonary rehabilitation. 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 for the extension of this currently approved information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to determine the eligibility for reimbursement of medical benefits to Black Lung recipients.

Type of Review: Revision.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Title: Certificate of Medical Necessity.

OMB Number: 1215–0113.

Agency Number: CM–893.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions.

Total Respondents: 3,200.

Total Annual Responses: 3,200.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 1,253.

Time per Response: 20 to 40 minutes.

Frequency: On occasion.

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

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

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. E8–12335 Filed 6–3–08; 8:45 am]