DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for 1029–0111

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

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 approval for the collection of information for 30 CFR 761, Areas designated by Act of Congress.

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection activities must be received by November 3, 2008, 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, contact John Trelease, at (202) 208–2783 or via e-mail at the address listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320.8, 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 761, Areas designated by Act of Congress. OSM will request a 3-year term of approval for each 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.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

The following information is provided for the information collection: (1) Title of the information collection; (2) OMB control number; (3) 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.

Title: Areas designated by Act of Congress, 30 CFR Part 761.

OMB Control Number: 1029–0111.

Summary: OSM and State regulatory authorities use the information collected under 30 CFR Part 761 to ensure that persons planning to conduct surface coal mining operations on the lands protected by §522(e) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 have the right to do so under one of the exemptions or waivers provided by this section of the Act.

Bureau Form Number: None.

Frequency of Collection: Once.

Description of Respondents: Applicants for certain surface coal mine permits and State regulatory authorities.

Total Annual Respondents: 16 coal mining applicants and 24 state regulatory authorities.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 512.

Total Annual Non-Wage Costs: $2,508.

Dated: August 27, 2008.

John R. Craynon,
Chief, Division of Regulatory Support.