Occupational Safety and Health Administration

29 CFR Part 1904

[DOCKET NO. OSHA–2009–0044]

RIN 1218–AC45

Occupational Injury and Illness Recording and Reporting Requirements

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: OSHA is extending the comment period on the proposed rule on Occupational Injury and Illness Recording and Reporting Requirements to March 30, 2010. The proposal would restore a column to the OSHA 300 Log that employers would use to record work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs).

DATES: The comment period for the proposed rule published January 29, 2010, at 75 FR 4728, is extended. Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent or received) by March 30, 2010.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. OSHA–2009–0044, by any one of the following methods:


Fax: If your comments, including attachments, do not exceed 10 pages, you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–1648.

Mail, hand delivery, express mail, messenger or courier service: You must submit three copies of your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA–2009–0044, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N–2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693–2350 (OSHA’s TTY number is (877) 889–5627). Deliveries (hand, express mail, messenger and courier service) are accepted during the Department of Labor’s and Docket Office’s normal business hours, 8:15 a.m.–4:45 p.m., e.t.

Instructions: All submissions must include the docket number (Docket No. OSHA–2009–0044) or RIN number (RIN 1218–AC45) for this rulemaking.

Because of security-related procedures, submission by regular mail may result in significant delay. Please contact the OSHA Docket Office about security procedures for hand delivery, express delivery, messenger or courier service.

All comments, including any personal information you provide, are placed in the public docket without change and may be made available on http://www.regulations.gov. Therefore, OSHA cautions you about submitting personal information such as social security numbers and birthdates.

Docket: To read or download submissions in response to the proposed rule, go to Docket No. OSHA–2009–0044 at http://www.regulations.gov. All submissions are listed in the http://www.regulations.gov index, however, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through that Web page. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office.

Electronic copies of this Federal Register document are available at http://www.regulations.gov. This document, as well as news releases and other relevant information, also are available at OSHA’s Web page at http://www.osha.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 29, 2010, OSHA published a proposed rule to revise its regulation on Occupational Injury and Illness Recording and Reporting (Recordkeeping) (75 FR 4728). The proposal would restore a column to the OSHA 300 Log that employers would use to record work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs). The proposal set a March 16, 2010 deadline for submitting written comments.

OSHA has received requests from several entities, including the Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, National Association of Home Builders, Associated Builders and Contractors, and IPC (Association Connecting Electronics Industries) to extend the comment period between 15 to 45 additional days. Their reasons for requesting an extension include the severe February snowstorms, which stakeholders said shut down or severely hampered access to their workplaces for more than a week, leaving them unable to access their offices or meet with their members. The requests also noted that while the proposed rule said OSHA was providing 60 days for public comment (75 FR 4739), the deadline in the DATES section only provided 45 days.

OSHA has decided to extend the deadline for submitting comments to March 30, 2010, which provides stakeholders an additional 15 days, as IPC requested. The extension ensures that stakeholders will have had a full 60 days to submit comments, which OSHA believes is adequate for this limited rulemaking. The extension also ensures that stakeholders attending the public
meeting on the proposed rule on March 9, 2010 have an opportunity to incorporate into their comments their views on relevant information presented at the meeting.

Authority and Signature

This document was prepared under the direction of David Michaels, PhD, MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health. It is issued under the authority of Sections 8 and 24 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 657, 673), 5 U.S.C. 553, and Secretary of Labor’s Order No. 5–2007 (72 FR 31160).

Signed at Washington, DC, this 4th of March 2010.

David Michaels,
Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

29 CFR Part 1910

RIN 1218–AC41

Combustible Dust

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice of stakeholder meetings.

SUMMARY: OSHA invites interested parties to participate in informal stakeholder meetings on the workplace hazards of combustible dust. OSHA plans to use the information gathered at these meetings in developing a proposed standard for combustible dust.

DATES: Dates and locations for the stakeholder meetings are:

- April 21, 2010, at 9 a.m., in Chicago, IL.
- April 21, 2010, at 1:30 p.m., in Chicago, IL.

Deadline for confirmed registration at the meetings is April 7, 2010.

ADDRESSES:

Registration

Submit your notice of intent to participate in one of the stakeholder meetings by one of the following:

- Electronic. Register at https://www2.ergweb.com/projects/conferences/osha-register-osha-stakeholder.htm (follow the instructions online).
- Facsimile. Fax your request to: (781) 674–2906, and label it “Attention: OSHA Combustible Dust Stakeholder Meeting Registration.”
- Regular mail, express delivery, hand (courier) delivery, and messenger service.

Send your request to: ERG, Inc., 110 Hartwell Avenue, Lexington, MA, 02421; Attention: OSHA Combustible Dust Stakeholder Meeting Registration.

Meetings

The April 21, 2010, meetings will be held at the Crowne Plaza Chicago O’Hare Hotel and Conference Center, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL, 60018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Information regarding this notice is available from the following sources:

- Copies of this Federal Register notice. Electronic copies are available at http://www.regulations.gov. This Federal Register notice, as well as news releases and other relevant information, also are available on the OSHA Web page at http://www.osha.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The hazards of combustible dust encompass a wide array of materials, industries, and processes. Any combustible material can burn rapidly when in a finely divided form. Materials that may form combustible dust include, but are not limited to, wood, coal, plastics, biocides, candle, sugar, spice, starch, flour, feed, grain, fertilizer, tobacco, paper, soap, rubber, drugs, dried blood, dyes, certain textiles, and metals (such as aluminum and magnesium). Industries that may have combustible dust hazards include, among others: animal food manufacturing, grain handling, food manufacturing, wood product manufacturing, chemical manufacturing, textile manufacturing, furniture manufacturing, metal processing, fabricated metal products and machinery manufacturing, pesticide manufacturing, pharmaceutical manufacturing, production of rubber and plastics, plastics and rubber products manufacturing, recycling, wastewater treatment, and coal handling.

OSHA is developing a standard that will comprehensively address the fire and explosion hazards of combustible dust. The Agency issued an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) that requested comments, including data and other information, on issues related to the hazards of combustible dust in the workplace. OSHA plans to use the information received in response to the ANPR and at the stakeholder meetings in developing a proposed standard for combustible dust. (74 FR 54334, Oct. 21, 2009)

II. Stakeholder Meetings

OSHA conducted two stakeholder meetings in Washington, DC, on December 14, 2009, and two stakeholder meetings in Atlanta, GA, on February 17, 2010. This notice announces two additional stakeholder meetings. The stakeholder meetings will be conducted as a group discussion on views, concerns, and issues surrounding the hazards of combustible dust. To facilitate as much group interaction as possible, formal presentations will not be permitted. The stakeholder meeting discussion will center on major issues such as:

- Scope.
- Organization of a prospective standard.
- The role of consensus standards.
- Economic impacts.
- Additional topics as time permits.

III. Public Participation

Approximately 25 participants will be accommodated in each meeting, and three hours will be allotted for each meeting. Members of the general public may observe, but not participate in, the meetings as space permits. OSHA staff will be present to take part in the discussions. Logistics for the meetings are being managed by Eastern Research Group (ERG), which will provide a facilitator and compile notes summarizing the discussion; these notes will not identify individual speakers. ERG also will make an audio recording of each session to ensure that the summary notes are accurate; these recordings will not be transcribed. The summary notes will be posted on the docket for the Combustible Dust ANPR, Docket ID: OSHA2009–0023, available at the Web site http://www.regulations.gov.

The meetings are as follows:

- April 21, 2010, at 9 a.m., at the Crowne Plaza Chicago O’Hare Hotel and Conference Center, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL, 60018

- Other dates and locations have not been decided.