DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary: Combating Exploitative Child Labor by Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods and Educational Opportunities for Children in Egypt and Jordan

AGENCY: Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Solicit Cooperative Agreement Applications.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), intends to award, through a competitive and merit-based process, two or more cooperative agreements to organizations to implement projects to combat exploitative child labor by promoting educational and training opportunities for target children and sustainable livelihoods for their households. In FY 2010, ILAB received Congressional authority to fund subgrants and microfinance activities.

ILAB intends to obligate up to $9.5 million for a child labor elimination project(s) in Egypt and up to $4 million for a child labor elimination project(s) in Jordan. Projects to be funded under these solicitations will need to address the following five goals:

1. Reducing exploitative child labor, especially the worst forms through the provision of direct educational services and by addressing root causes of child labor, including innovative strategies to promote sustainable livelihoods of target households;

2. Strengthening policies on child labor, education, and sustainable livelihoods, and the capacity of national institutions to combat child labor, address its root causes, and promote formal, non-exploitative and vocational education opportunities to provide children with alternatives to child labor;

3. Raising awareness of exploitative and hazardous child labor and its root causes, and the importance of education for all children and mobilizing a wide array of actors to improve and expand education infrastructures;

4. Supporting research, evaluation, and the collection of reliable data on child labor, its root causes, and effective strategies, including educational and vocational alternatives, microfinance and other income generating activities to improve household income; and

5. Ensuring the long-term sustainability of these efforts.

ILAB intends to solicit cooperative agreement applications from qualified organizations (i.e., any commercial, international, educational, or non-profit organization, including any faith-based, community-based, or public international organization(s), capable of successfully developing and implementing child labor projects) to implement these projects. Please refer to http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/grants/main.htm for examples of previous notices of availability of funds and solicitations for cooperative agreement applications (SGAs).

Key Dates: The forthcoming SGAs will be published on http://www.grants.gov and USDOL/ILAB’s Web site. A brief synopsis of the SGAs(s), which will include Web site links to the full text solicitation(s), will be published in the Federal Register. The SGA(s) will remain open for at least 45 days from the date of publication. All cooperative agreement awards will be made on or before December 31, 2010.

Submission Information: Applications in response to the forthcoming SGAs may be submitted electronically via http://www.grants.gov or hard copy by mail. Hard copy applications must be delivered to: U.S. Department of Labor, Procurement Services Center, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S–4307, Washington, DC 20210, Attention: Georgiette Nkpa. Any application sent by other delivery methods, including e-mail, telegram, or facsimile (FAX) will not be accepted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mrs. Georgiette Nkpa. E-mail address: nkpa.georgiette@dol.gov. All inquiries should make reference to the USDOL Combating Exploitative Child Labor by Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods and Educational Opportunities for Children in Egypt and Jordan—Solicitations for Cooperative Agreement Applications. Information on specific target groups, sectors, geographic regions, and funding levels for the potential projects in the countries listed above will be addressed in one or more solicitations for cooperative agreement applications to be published prior to September 30, 2010. Potential applicants should not submit inquiries to USDOL for further information on these award opportunities until after USDOL’s publication of the solicitation(s). For a list of frequently asked questions on ILAB’S Solicitations for Cooperative Agreement Applications (based on last year’s solicitation, SGA 09–06), please visit http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/grants/20090624/SGAQuadAs.pdf.

Background Information: Since 1995, the U.S. Congress has appropriated over $780 million to ILAB for efforts to combat exploitative child labor internationally. This funding has been used to support technical cooperation projects to combat exploitative child labor, including the worst forms, in more than 80 countries around the world. Technical cooperation projects funded by USDOL range from targeted action programs in specific sectors of work to more comprehensive programs that support national efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, as defined by International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention 182. USDOL-funded projects have withdrawn or prevented over 1.4 million children from exploitative child labor.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 7th day of September, 2010.

Cassandra R. Mitchell,
Grant Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Safety Defects; Examination, Correction and Records, 30 CFR 56/57.14100, 56/57.13015, 56/57.13030, and 56/57.18002 (Pertains to Metal and Nonmetal (M/NM) Surface and Underground Mines)

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance 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 assure 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 Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the extension of the information collection for Safety Defects; Examination, Correction and Records, 30 CFR 56/57.14100, 56/57.13015, 56/57.13030, and 56/57.18002.

DATES: All comments must be received by midnight Eastern Daylight Saving Time on November 15, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Comments must clearly be identified with the rule title and may be submitted to MSHA by any of the following methods:

1. Electronic mail: zzMSHA-Comments@dol.gov.
2. Facsimile: (202) 693–9441.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mario Distasio, Chief of the Economic Analysis Division, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, at distasio.mario@dol.gov (e-mail), 202–693–9445 (voicemail), 202–693–9441 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 103(h) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), 30 U.S.C. 13(h), authorizes MSHA to collect information necessary to carry out its duty in protecting the safety and health of miners.

Compressed-air receivers and other unfired pressure vessels must be inspected by inspectors holding a valid National Board Commission and in accordance with the applicable chapters of the National Board Inspection Code, a Manual for Boiler and Pressure Vessels Inspectors, 1979. Safety defects found on compressed-air receivers and other unfired pressure vessels have caused injuries and fatalities in the mining industry. Records of inspections are required to be kept in accordance with the requirements of the National Board Inspection Code and the records must be made available to the Secretary or an authorized representative.

Fired pressure vessels (boilers) must be equipped with water level gauges, pressure gauges, automatic pressure-relief valves, blowdown piping and other safety devices approved by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) to protect against hazards from overpressure, flameouts, fuel interruptions and low water level. These sections also require that records of inspection and repairs be kept by the mine operator in accordance with the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, 1977, and the National Board Inspection Code (progressive records—no limit on retention time) and must be made available to the Secretary or an authorized representative.

Operators must inspect equipment, machinery, and tools that are to be used during a shift for safety defects before the equipment is placed in operation. Defects affecting safety are required to be corrected in a timely manner. In instances where the defect makes continued operation of the equipment hazardous to persons, the equipment must be removed from service, tagged to identify that it is out of use, and repaired before use is resumed. Safety defects on self-propelled mobile equipment account for many injuries and fatalities in the mining industry. Inspection of this equipment prior to use is required to assure safe operation. The equipment operator is required to make a visual and operational check of the various primary operating systems that affect safety, such as brakes, lights, horn, seatbelts, tires, steering, back-up alarm, windshield, cab safety glass, rear and side view mirrors, and other safety and health related items. Any defects found are required to be either corrected immediately, or reported to and recorded by the mine operator prior to the timely correction. A record is not required if unsafe conditions are not present upon examination prior to use if the defect is corrected immediately. The precise format in which the record is kept is left to the discretion of the mine operator. Reports of uncorrected defects are required to be recorded by the mine operator and kept at the mine office from the date the defects are recorded, until the defects are corrected.

A competent person designated by the operator must examine each working place at least once each shift for conditions which may adversely affect safety or health. A record of such examinations must be kept by the operator for a period of one year and must be made available for review by the Secretary or an authorized representative.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

MSHA is particularly interested in comments that:

1. 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:
   a. 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:
   b. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
   c. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including 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.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the employee listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this notice, or viewed on the Internet by selecting “Rules & Regs”, and then selecting “FedRegDocs”. On the next screen, select “Paperwork Reduction Act Supporting Statement” to view documents supporting the Federal Register notice.

III. Current Actions

This request for collection of information contains notification and recordkeeping provisions for the Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Safety Defects; Examination, Correction and Records, 30 CFR 56/57.14100, 56/57.13015, 56/57.13030, and 56/57.18002. MSHA does not intend to publish the results from this information collection and is not seeking approval to either display or not display the expiration date for the OMB approval of this information collection.

There are no certification exceptions identified with this information collection and the collection of this information does not employ statistical methods.

Type of Review: Extension
Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration
OMB Number: 1219–0089
Frequency: On Occasion
Affected Public: Business or other for-profit
Cost to Federal Government: No additional cost
Total Burden Respondents: 12,557
Total Number of Responses: 11,502,241
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations;

Health Standards for Diesel Particulate Matter Exposure (Underground Coal Mines) 30 CFR 75.1915/72.503, 72.510, 72.520 and Part 7 or Part 36 as a Result of § 72.500

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance 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 assure 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 Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the extension of the information collection for 30 CFR 75.1915/72.503, 72.510, 72.520 and Part 7 or Part 36 as a result of § 72.500.

DATES: All comments must be received by midnight Eastern Daylight Savings Time on November 15, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Comments must clearly be identified with the rule title and may be submitted to MSHA by any of the following methods:

(1) Electronic mail: zzMSHA–Comments@dol.gov.
(2) Facsimile: (202) 693–9441.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mario Distasio, Chief of the Economic Analysis Division, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, at distasio.mario@dol.gov (e-mail), 202–693–9445 (voice), 202–693–9441 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 101(a) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), provides that the Secretary of Labor shall develop, promulgate, and revise as may be appropriate, improved mandatory health or safety standards for the protection of life and prevention of injuries in coal or other mines. In addition, Section 103(h) of the Mine Act mandates that mine operators keep any records and make any reports that are reasonably necessary for the Mine Safety and Health Administration to perform its duties under the Mine Act.

MSHA established standards and regulations for diesel-powered equipment in underground coal mines that provide additional important protection for coal miners who work on and around diesel-powered equipment. The standards were designed to reduce the risks to underground coal miners of serious health hazards associated with exposure to high concentrations of diesel particulate matter. The standards contain information collection requirements for underground coal mine operators in Health Standards for Diesel Particulate Matter Exposure (Underground Coal Mines) 30 CFR 75.1915/72.503, 72.510, 72.520 and Part 7 or Part 36 as a result of § 72.500.

• After-treatment devices installed on diesel-powered equipment must be maintained according to manufacturer specifications. Since these devices are not usually on diesel machinery, maintenance personnel have to be trained to maintain them.
• Persons required to perform maintenance on diesel-powered equipment must successfully complete a training and qualification program in accordance with § 75.1915(a). The mine operator must maintain a copy of the required training and qualification program and a record of the names of all qualified persons under the program.

• Underground coal mine operators are required to keep a record of those trained for one year.

• Underground coal mine operators exposed to diesel emissions are required to be trained annually. The training must include: Health risks associated with exposure to diesel particulate matter; methods used in the mine to control diesel particulate concentrations; identification of the personnel responsible for maintaining those controls; and actions miners must take to assure controls operate as intended.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

MSHA is particularly interested in comments that:

• 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 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.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the employee listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this notice, or viewed on the Internet by selecting “Rules & Regs”, and then selecting “FedReg.Docs”. On the next screen, select “Paperwork Reduction Act Supporting Statement” to view documents supporting the Federal Register notice.