ADDRESSES: section of this notice. The Agency will file comments received after the comment closing date in the public docket, and will consider them to the extent practicable.

In addition to late comments, FMCSA will also continue to file, in the public docket, relevant information that becomes available after the comment closing date. Interested persons should monitor the public docket for new material.

Issued on: January 31, 2011.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator, Office of Policy.

[FR Doc. 2011–2983 Filed 2–10–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration


Requirements

Reports, Forms, and Recordkeeping

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Request for public comment on proposed collection of information.

SUMMARY: Before a Federal agency can collect certain information from the public, it must receive approval from OMB. Under procedures established by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, before seeking OMB approval, Federal agencies must solicit public comment on proposed collections of information, including extensions and reinstatements of previously approved collections. This document describes a collection of information for which NHTSA intends to seek OMB approval.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 12, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments [identified by DOT Docket No. NHTSA–2011–0018] by any of the following methods:

• Federal Rulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

• Mail: Docket Management Facility: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

• Hand Delivery or Courier: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Telephone: 1–800–647–5527.


Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and docket number for this proposed collection of information. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading below.

Privacy Act: Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT’s complete Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477–78) or you may visit http://DocketInfo.dot.gov.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov or the street address listed above. Follow the online instructions for accessing the dockets.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Laurie Flaherty, Program Analyst, National 9–1–1 Program, Office of Emergency Medical Services, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., NH–140, Room W44–322, Washington, DC 20590. (202) 366–2705. laurie.flaherty@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, before an agency submits a proposed collection of information to OMB for approval, it must publish a document in the Federal Register providing a 60 day comment period and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information. The OMB has promulgated regulations describing what must be included in such a document. Under OMB’s regulations (at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)), an agency must ask for public comment on the following:

(i) 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;

(ii) 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;

(iii) How to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(iv) How to 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. In compliance with these requirements, NHTSA asks public comment on the following proposed collection of information:

Title: National 9–1–1 Profile Database.

OMB Control Number: N/A.

FORM Number: The collection of information uses no standard forms, but does utilize a Web-based, data reporting/collection tool (https://www.911resourcecenter.org/code/9-1-1ProfileDatabase.aspx).

Abstract: The 911 Resource Center, funded by a cooperative agreement with NHTSA, is proposing to collect and aggregate information from State level reporting entities that can be used to measure the progress of 9–1–1 authorities across the country in enhancing their existing operations and migrating to—Internet-Protocol-enabled emergency networks. The data will be maintained in a “National 9–1–1 Profile Database.” One of the objectives of the National 9–1–1 Program is to develop, collect, and disseminate information concerning practices, procedures, and technology used in the implementation of E–911 services and to support 9–1–1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and related State and local agencies for 9–1–1 deployment and operations. The national 9–1–1 profile database can be used to follow the progress of 9–1–1 authorities in enhancing their existing systems and implementing next-generation networks for more advanced systems.

Description of the Need for the Information and Proposed Use of the Information—

The goal of the data collection process is to support a national 9–1–1 profile that will be used to help accurately measure and depict the current status and planned capabilities of 9–1–1 systems across the United States. Evaluations, based upon the data collected, will help draw attention to key roadblocks and solutions in the deployment process and to target possible future activities and resources consistent with the goals of the program. The information in aggregated form will be available to State and local stakeholders in the public safety community.

The information to be collected includes data useful to evaluating the status of 9–1–1 programs across the country, along with the progress of implementing advanced systems and capabilities. The data elements involved
will fall within two major categories: baseline and progress benchmarks.

- “Baseline” data elements reflect the current status and nature of 9–1–1 operations from State to State. These elements are largely descriptive in nature, are intended to provide a general view of existing 9–1–1 services across the country, and are grouped within three categories: administrative, system, and fiscal data.

- “Progress benchmarks” reflect the status of State efforts to implement advanced next generation 9–1–1 systems and capabilities. As titled, these data elements are largely implementation or deployment benchmarks against which progress can be measured. The elements involved are grouped in a logical order of planning, procurement, installation and testing, transition, and operations. Planning through testing elements reflects both State level and sub-State level activity and efforts. Transitional and operational elements specifically represent the latter.

In order to collect information needed to develop and implement effective strategies that meet the Program’s goal of providing leadership, coordination, guidance and direction to the enhancement of the Nation’s 9–1–1 services, NHTSA proposes to utilize a Web-based, data reporting and collection tool accessible through the Web site: http://www.911resourcecenter.org.

Description of the Likely Respondents (Including Estimated Number, and Proposed Frequency of Response to the Collection of Information):

Under this proposed effort, the 9–1–1 Resource Center would specifically request reporting entities to voluntarily collect and annually report the data described above utilizing the described Web-based data collection tool. Reporting entities are State level 9–1–1 program officials, and the data reported will reflect State-level aggregated data. The total number of respondents is identified at fifty-six (56), including the fifty States and the six U.S. Territories of Guam, U.S. Minor Outlying Islands, American Samoa, Mariana Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

The above reporting entities will be requested to annually update data relating to their State or territory using the described Web-based tool.

Estimate of the Total Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden Resulting From the Collection of Information:

NHTSA estimates that the time required to annually report the data described utilizing the Web-based tool will be three hours (2 hours of preparation, 1 hour of entry to Web site) per reporting entity, for a total of 168 hours for all entities. The respondents would not incur any reporting costs from the information collection beyond the time it takes to gather the information, prepare it for reporting and then populate the Web-based data collection tool. The respondents also would not incur any recordkeeping burden or recordkeeping costs from the information collection.


Issued on: February 8, 2011.

Michael L. Brown, Acting Associate Administrator, Research and Program Development.

For Further Information Contact:


Supplementary Information:

I. Advanced Air Bag Requirements

In 2000, NHTSA upgraded the requirements for air bags in passenger cars and light trucks, requiring what are commonly known as “advanced air bags.” The upgrade was designed to meet the twin goals of improving protection for occupants of all ages, belted and unbelted, in moderate- to high-speed crashes, and of minimizing the risks posed by deploying air bags to infants, children, and other occupants, especially in low-speed crashes.

The advanced air bag requirements were a culmination of a comprehensive plan that the agency announced in 1996 to address the adverse effects of some air bag designs. This plan also included conducting rulemaking to facilitate the depowering of air bags and conducting an extensive consumer education program to encourage the placement of children in rear seats.

The new requirements were phased in beginning with the 2004 model year. Small volume manufacturers were not subject to the advanced air bag requirements until September 1, 2006.

In recent years, NHTSA has addressed a number of petitions for exemption from the advanced air bag requirements of FMVSS No. 208. The majority of these requests have come from small manufacturers that have petitioned on the basis that compliance would cause substantial economic hardship to a manufacturer that has tried in good faith to comply with the standard. NHTSA has granted a number of these petitions, usually in situations where the manufacturer is supplying standard air bags in lieu of advanced air bags. In addressing these petitions, NHTSA has recognized that small manufacturers may face particular difficulties in acquiring or developing advanced air bag systems.

The agency has carefully tracked occupant fatalities resulting from air bag deployment. Our data indicate that the agency’s efforts in the area of consumer education and manufacturers’ response to the agency’s rulemaking by providing depowered air bags were successful in