

this purpose, the term “rescission” means a cancellation or discontinuance of coverage that has retroactive effect, except to the extent it is attributable to a failure to timely pay required premiums or contributions towards the cost of coverage.

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(9) The term “claim file” means the file or other compilation of relevant information, as described in paragraph (m)(8) of this section, to be considered in the full and fair review of a disability benefit claim.

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(p) *Standards for culturally and linguistically appropriate notices.* A plan is considered to provide relevant notices in a “culturally and linguistically appropriate manner” if the plan meets all the requirements of paragraph (p)(1) of this section with respect to the applicable non-English languages described in paragraph (p)(2) of this section.

(1) *Requirements.* (i) The plan must provide oral language services (such as a telephone customer assistance hotline) that include answering questions in any applicable non-English language and providing assistance with filing claims and appeals in any applicable non-English language;

(ii) The plan must provide, upon request, a notice in any applicable non-English language; and

(iii) The plan must include in the English versions of all notices, a statement prominently displayed in any applicable non-English language clearly indicating how to access the language services provided by the plan.

(2) *Applicable non-English language.* With respect to an address in any United States county to which a notice is sent, a non-English language is an applicable non-English language if ten percent or more of the population residing in the county is literate only in the same non-English language, as determined in guidance published by the Secretary.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 6th day of November, 2015.

**Phyllis C. Borzi,**

*Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.*

[FR Doc. 2015-29295 Filed 11-13-15; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 4510-29-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Mine Safety and Health Administration

#### 30 CFR Parts 7 and 75

[Docket No. MSHA-2013-0033]

RIN 1219-AB79

#### Refuge Alternatives for Underground Coal Mines

**AGENCY:** Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Request for Information; extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** In response to requests from interested parties, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is extending the comment period on the Request for Information on Refuge Alternatives for Underground Coal Mines. This extension gives stakeholders additional time to provide input on the current state of refuges in use and recent research and new technology that may lead to the development of a new generation of refuges.

**DATES:** Comments must be received or postmarked by midnight Eastern Standard Time on January 15, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments and informational materials, identified by RIN 1219-AB79 or Docket No. MSHA-2013-0033, by one of the following methods:

- *Federal E-Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- *E-Mail:* [zzMSHA-comments@dol.gov](mailto:zzMSHA-comments@dol.gov). Include RIN 1219-AB79 or Docket No. MSHA-2014-0033 in the subject line of the message.
- *Mail:* MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 201 12th Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, Virginia 22202-5452.
- *Fax:* 202-693-9441.
- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* MSHA, 201 12th Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, Virginia, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Sign in at the receptionist’s desk on the 4th floor.

*Instructions:* All submissions must include RIN 1219-AB79 or Docket No. MSHA-2013-0033. Do not include personal information that you do not want publicly disclosed; MSHA will post all comments without change to <http://www.regulations.gov> and <http://www.msha.gov/currentcomments.asp>, including any personal information provided.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>

or <http://www.regulations.gov> or <http://www.msha.gov/currentcomments.asp>. To read background documents, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Review the docket in person at MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 201 12th Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, Virginia 22202-5452, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. Sign in at the receptionist’s desk on the 4th floor.

*E-Mail Notification:* To subscribe to receive an email notification when MSHA publishes rules in the **Federal Register**, and program information, instructions, and policy, go to <http://www.msha.gov/subscriptions/subscribe.aspx>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sheila A. McConnell, Acting Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, at [mccconnell.sheila.a@dol.gov](mailto:mccconnell.sheila.a@dol.gov) (email); 202-693-9440 (voice); or 202-693-9441 (facsimile).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On October 19, 2015, MSHA held a public meeting to gather information on issues and options relevant to coal miners’ escape and refuge. The meeting was announced in the **Federal Register** on September 18, 2015 (80 FR 56416). Coal mine operators, coal miners, equipment manufacturers, academia, and the public were invited to provide information on the current state of refuge alternatives in underground coal mines, particularly on the challenges related to the use of built-in-place refuges and enhancing voice communication when using escape breathing devices. In response to stakeholders, MSHA is providing additional time for interested parties to comment. MSHA is extending the comment period from November 16, 2015, to January 15, 2016.

**Joseph A. Main,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. 2015-29433 Filed 11-16-15; 11:15 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-43-P**