DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Petition for Modification of Application of an Existing Mandatory Safety Standard

AGENCY: Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice includes the summary of a petition for modification submitted to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) by the party listed below.

DATES: All comments on the petition must be received by MSHA’s Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances on or before August 25, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit your comments including the docket number of the petition by any of the following methods:

1. Electronic Mail: zzMSHA-comments@dol.gov. Include the docket number of the petition in the subject line of the message.


3. Regular Mail or Hand Delivery: MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 201 12th Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, Virginia 22202–5452, Attention: Jessica D. Senk, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances. Persons delivering documents are required to check in at the receptionist’s desk in Suite 4E401. Individuals may inspect copies of the petition and comments during normal business hours at the address listed above.

MSHA will consider only comments postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or proof of delivery from another delivery service such as UPS or Federal Express on or before the deadline for comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jessica D. Senk, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances at 202–693–9440 (voice), Senk.Jessica@dol.gov (email), or 202–693–9441 (facsimile). [These are not toll-free numbers.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 and Title 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 44 govern the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for modification.

I. Background

Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act) allows the mine operator or representative of miners to file a petition to modify the application of any mandatory safety standard to a coal or other mine if the Secretary of Labor determines that:

1. An alternative method of achieving the result of such standard exists which will at all times guarantee no less than the same measure of protection afforded the miners of such mine by such standard; or

2. The application of such standard to such mine will result in a diminution of safety to the miners in such mine.

In addition, sections 44.10 and 44.11 of 30 CFR establish the requirements for filing petitions for modification.

II. Petition for Modification


Mine: Leer South Mine, MSHA ID No. 46–04168, located in Barbour County, West Virginia.

Regulation Affected: 30 CFR 75.1904(b)(6) (Underground diesel fuel tanks and safety cans).

Modification Request: The petitioner requests a modification of the existing standard to permit the use of Brookville locomotive diesel motor in a dual role as a motor/diesel fuel transportation unit. The petitioner proposes an alternative method of complying with the requirement for a shut-off valve in the locomotive motor’s fuel return line (a connection between the engine and fuel tank through which fuel flows when the engine is running). The petitioner states that the return line is unrelated to fuel dispensing, and that therefore a shut-off valve on this line is not necessary. Using a shut-off valve on the return line could cause engine damage and an over-fueling condition, due to the fuel not being able to return to the locomotive’s fuel tank. This over-fueling condition would increase harmful exhaust emissions such as carbon monoxide, and would therefore create a health risk to locomotive operators and miners in the affected area.

The petitioner proposes the following alternative method:

(a) The Brookville diesel motor has been equipped with a fuel tank constructed of ¼ inch steel plates that is designed to serve as both the motor’s fuel tank and fuel dispensing tank. The tank is equipped with a pump that can only dispense 50 percent of the tank’s capacity, in order to ensure that the motor’s fuel supply cannot be completely depleted.

(b) During the fueling process, the motor’s engine will be shut off, which eliminates unnecessary idling. The 8-gallons per minute fuel dispensing pump will operate utilizing a separate battery power source that has been added to the motor.

(c) The fuel dispensing hose is a 50-foot hose with a no latch open device and a self-closing valve. A power supply switch is located at the pump’s nozzle storage bracket, and an emergency shut-off switch is located above the fuel tank. The emergency switch is protected by a cover, so that the switch is in the off position anytime the cover is closed.

(d) The following fueling procedures have been developed and posted above the fuel tank.

- Make sure fueling sign is hung.
- Inspect fire extinguishers prior to beginning the fueling process.
- Ensure fire extinguishers are located out-by the fueling point.
- Verify fuel hose, equipment, etc. are in good working condition.
- Test for methane in the atmosphere.
- Check for potential ignition sources and other hazards in the area.
- Notify the mine dispatcher before starting.
- Unlock and open the emergency switch.
- Check for any spills after the fueling is complete.
- Shut off the emergency switch and close locked cover.
- Notify the mine dispatcher after completion.

(e) The tank is equipped with a 4 inch vent designed to open at a pressure not to exceed 2.5 pounds per square inch, as required by 75.1904(b).

(f) Tank openings are marked and the tank, fittings and components are pressure-tested.

(g) The pump dispensing line is equipped with a manual shut off valve that serves as anti-siphoning device as required under 75.1904(b)(ii).

(h) Additional fire suppression and detection are installed to ensure that the
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA–2012–0017]

Reports of Injuries to Employees Operating Mechanical Power Presses; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) Approval of an Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements

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

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits public comments concerning the proposal to extend the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) approval of the information collection requirements specified in the Standard on Reports of Injuries to Employees Operating Mechanical Power Presses.

DATES: Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by September 24, 2021.

ADDRESSES:
Electronically: You may submit comments, including attachments, electronically at http://www.regulations.gov, the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.

Docket: To read or download comments or other material in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov. Documents in the docket 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 the website. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection through the OSHA Docket Office. Contact the OSHA Docket Office for assistance in locating docket submissions.

Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and the OSHA docket number for this Federal Register notice (OSHA–2012–0017). OSHA will place comments and requests to speak, including personal information, in the public docket, which may be available online. Therefore, OSHA cautions interested parties about submitting personal information such as Social Security numbers and birthdates. For further information on submitting comments, see the “Public Participation” heading in the section of this notice titled SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Theda Kenney or Seleda Perryman, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, telephone (202) 693–2222.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background
The Department of Labor, as part of the continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respond to (i.e., employer) burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA–95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA’s estimate of the information collection burden is accurate. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act) (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or appropriate for enforcement of the Act or for developing information regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents (29 U.S.C. 657). The OSH Act also requires that OSHA obtain such information with minimum burden upon employers, especially those operating small businesses, and to reduce to the maximum extent feasible unnecessary duplication of efforts in obtaining information (29 U.S.C. 657).

In the event that a worker is injured while operating a mechanical power press, 29 CFR 1910.217(g) requires the employer to report, within 30 days of the occurrence, all point-of-operation injuries to the operators or other employees to either the Director of the Directorate of Standards and Guidance at OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210 or electronically at http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/mechanical.html; or to the State agency administering a plan approved by the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health. This information includes the employer’s and worker’s name(s), workplace address and location; injury sustained; task being performed when the injury occurred; number of operators required for the operation and the number of operators provided with controls and safeguards; cause of the incident; type of clutch, safeguard(s), and feeding method(s) used; and means used to actuate the press stroke. These reports are a source of up-to-date information on power press machines. Specifically, this information identifies the equipment used and conditions associated with these injuries. OSHA’s Mechanical Power Press injury reporting requirement at 1910.217(g) is a separate injury reporting requirement from OSHA’s severe injury reporting requirements which are part of 1904.39. Under 1904.39, employers must, within 24 hours, report to OSHA any work-related injury requiring hospitalization as well as work-related incidents resulting in an amputation or loss of an eye. The Mechanical Power Press Standard requires employers to report all injuries involving operation of a power press to OSHA or an appropriate agency within 30 days. Injuries that must be reported under 1910.217(g) include those that are also reportable under 1904.39 as well as those that are recordable under the recordkeeping standard (29 CFR 1904).

II. Special Issues for Comment
OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues: • Whether the proposed information collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the agency’s functions, including whether the information is useful; • The accuracy of OSHA’s estimate of the burden (time and costs) of the information collection requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; • The quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and • Ways to minimize the burden on employers who must comply. For example, by using automated or other