

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Employment Standards Administration****Wage and Hour Division****Minimum Wages for Federal and Federally Assisted Construction; General Wage Determination Decisions**

General wage determination decisions of the Secretary of Labor are issued in accordance with applicable law and are based on the information obtained by the Department of Labor from its study of local wage conditions and data made available from other sources. They specify the basic hourly wage rates and fringe benefits which are determined to be prevailing for the described classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction projects of a similar character and in the localities specified therein.

The determinations in these decisions of prevailing rates and fringe benefits have been made in accordance with 29 CFR Part 1, by authority of the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act of March 3, 1931, as amended (46 Stat. 1494, as amended, 40 U.S.C. 276a) and of other Federal statutes referred to in 29 CFR part 1, Appendix, as well as such additional statutes as many from time to time be

enacted containing provisions for the payment of wages determined to be prevailing by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act. The prevailing rates and fringe benefits determined in these decision shall, in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing statutes, constitute the minimum wages payable on Federal and federally assisted construction projects to laborers and mechanics of the specified classes engaged on contract work of the character and in the localities described therein.

Good cause is hereby found for not utilizing notice and public comment procedure thereon prior to the issuance of these determinations as prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 553 and not providing for delay in the effective date as prescribed in that section, because the necessity to issue current construction industry wage determinations frequently and in large volume causes procedures to be impractical and contrary to the public interest.

General wage determination decisions, and modifications and supersedes decisions thereto, contain no expiration dates and are effective from their date of notice in the **Federal Register**, or on the date written notice is received by the agency, whichever is earlier. These decisions are to be used

in accordance with the provisions of 29 CFR parts 1 and 5. Accordingly, the applicable decision, together with any modifications issued, must be made a part of every contract for performance of the described work within the geographic area indicated as required by an applicable Federal prevailing wage law and 29 CFR part 5. The wage rates and fringe benefits, notice of which is published herein, and which are contained in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts," shall be the minimum paid by contractors and subcontractors to laborers and mechanics.

Any person, organization, or governmental agency having an interest in the rates determined as prevailing is encouraged to submit wage rate and fringe benefit information for consideration by the Department. Further information and self-explanatory forms for the purpose of submitting this data may be obtained by writing to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division, Division of Wage Determinations, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room S-3014, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Modifications to General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of decisions listed in the Government Printing Office document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts" being modified are listed by Volume and State. Dates of publication in the **Federal Register** are in parentheses following the decisions being modified.

Volume I

Connecticut

CT970001 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 CT970003 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 CT970004 (Feb. 14, 1997)

New York

NY970003 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970005 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970007 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970013 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970018 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970019 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970026 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970033 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970036 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970043 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970045 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970048 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970050 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970051 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NY970075 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Volume II

Pennsylvania

PA970007 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 PA970009 (Feb. 14, 1997)

PA970010 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 PA970014 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 PA970019 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 PA970023 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 PA970029 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 PA970060 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Virginia

VA970011 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 VA970020 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Volume III

Georgia

GA970050 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Volume IV

Illinois

IL970025 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IL970030 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IL970040 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IL970041 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IL970047 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IL970048 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IL970057 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IL970058 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IL970061 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Indiana

IN970001 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 IN970006 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Volume V

Iowa

IA970003 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Nebraska

NE970001 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 NE970019 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Volume VI

Oregon

OR970001 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Washington

WA970001 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 WA970002 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 WA970003 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 WA970005 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 WA970007 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 WA970008 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 WA970011 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 WA970013 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Volume VII

California

CA970098 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 CA970099 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 CA970101 (Feb. 14, 1997)
 CA970111 (Feb. 14, 1997)

General Wage Determination Publication

General wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts, including those noted above, may be found in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts". This publication is available at each of the 50 Regional Government Depository Libraries and many of the 1,400 Government Depository Libraries across the country.

The general wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts are available electronically by subscription to the FedWorld Bulletin Board System of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) of

the U.S. Department of Commerce at (703) 487-4630.

Hard-copy subscriptions may be purchased from: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (202) 512-1800.

When ordering hard-copy subscription(s), be sure to specify the State(s) of interest, since subscriptions may be ordered for any or all of the seven separate volumes, arranged by State. Subscriptions include an annual edition (issued in January or February) which includes all current general wage determinations for the States covered by each volume. Throughout the remainder of the year, regular weekly updates are distributed to subscribers.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 24th day of October 1997.

Margaret Washington,

Acting Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

[FR Doc. 97-28650 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Ventilation Plans, Tests, and Examinations in Underground Coal Mines

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance 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 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure 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 existing information collection related to Ventilation Plans, Tests, and Examinations in Underground Coal Mines. MSHA is particularly interested in comment which:

- 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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions or responses.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contracting the employee listed below in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

DATES: Submit comments on or before December 30, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Commenters are encouraged to send their comments on a computer disk, or via E-mail to psilvey@msha.gov, along with an original printed copy. Ms. Silvey can be reached at (703) 235-1910 (voice) or (703) 235-5551 (facsimile).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George M. Fesak, Director, Office of Program Evaluation and Information Resources, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 715, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Mr. Fesak can be reached at gfesak@gov (internet E-mail), (703) 235-8378 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Underground coal mines usually present harsh and hostile working environments. The ventilation system is the most vital life support system in underground mining and a properly operating ventilation system is essential for maintaining a safe and healthful working environment. Lack of adequate ventilation in underground mines has resulted in fatalities from asphyxiation and explosions.

An underground mine is a maze of tunnels that must be adequately ventilated with fresh air to provide a safe environment for miners. Methane is liberated from the strata, and noxious

gases and dusts from blasting and other mining activities may be present. The explosive and noxious gases and dusts must be diluted, rendered harmless, and carried to the surface by the ventilating currents. Sufficient air must be provided to maintain the level of respirable dust at or below 2 milligrams per cubic meter of air and air quality must be maintained in accordance with MSHA standards. Mechanical ventilation equipment of sufficient capacity must operate at all times while miners are in the mine. Ground conditions are subject to frequent changes, thus sufficient tests and examinations are necessary to ensure the integrity of the ventilation system and to detect any changes that may require adjustments in the system. Records of tests and examinations are necessary to ensure that the ventilation system is being maintained and that changes which could adversely affect the integrity of the system or the safety of the miners are not occurring. These examinations requirements of 75.360 through 75.364 also incorporate examinations of other critical aspects of the underground work environment such as roof conditions and electrical equipment which have historically caused numerous fatalities if not properly maintained and operated.

II. Current Actions

MSHA is seeking to continue the requirements for mine mine ventilation plans, tests and examinations in underground coal mines. The records give notice to mine management and the miners on the oncoming shift on mine conditions, identify hazards on working sections during the previous shift, and verify that proper ventilation is being maintained. The information is available to all interested persons at the mine to assure them that the integrity of the ventilation system is being provided for the miners. MSHA inspectors use the records to determine that tests and examinations, required by the regulations, are made.

Type of Review: Revision.

Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Title: Ventilation Plans, Tests, and Examinations in Underground Coal Mines.

Affected Public Business or other for-profit.

Cite/Reference/Form/etc: 30 CFR 75.310, 75.312, 75.342, 75.351, 75.360, 75.361, 75.362, 75.363, 75.364, 75.370 and 75.382.