

OMB Number: 1218-0072.

Frequency: On occasion.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Federal government; State, local or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 5,041,918.

Estimated Time Per Respondent:

Ranges from 10 minutes for establishments to obtain and maintain material safety data sheets to 8 hours for manufacturers or importers to conduct a hazard determination.

Total Burden Hours: 7,301,762 hours.

Description: The Hazard

Communication Standard's collection of information requirements are designed to ensure that the hazards of all chemicals produced or imported are evaluated and that information concerning their hazards is transmitted to employees and downstream employers. The standard requires chemical manufacturers and importers to evaluate chemicals they produce or import to determine if they are hazardous; for those chemicals determined to be hazardous, material safety data sheets and warning labels must be developed. Employers are required to establish a hazard communication program, to transmit information on the hazards of chemicals to their employees by means of labels on containers, material safety data sheets and training programs. Implementation of these collection of information requirements will ensure all employees have the "right-to-know" the hazards and identities of the chemicals they work with and will reduce the incidence of chemically-related occupational illness and injuries.

Ira L. Mills,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-31178 Filed 11-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Roof Control Plan

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.

DATES: Submit comments on or before January 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Diane B. Hill, Program Analysis Officer, Office of Program Evaluation and Information Resources, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 715, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Commenters are encouraged to send their comments on a computer disk, or via Internet E-mail to dhill@msha.gov, along with an original printed copy. Ms. Hill can be reached at (703) 235-1470 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Diane B. Hill, Program Analysis Officer, Office of Program Evaluation and Information Resources, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 719, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Ms. Hill can be reached at dhill@msha.gov (Internet E-mail), (703) 235-1470 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 302(a) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), 30 U.S.C. 846, requires that a roof control plan and revisions thereof suitable to the roof conditions and mining system of each coal mine be first approved by the Secretary of Labor (Secretary) before implementation by the operator. The plan must show the type of support and spacing approved by the Secretary, and the plan must be reviewed at least every 6 months by the Secretary.

Under 30 CFR 75.221, the information required to be submitted and approved in the roof control plan includes the following: (1) the name and address of the company; (2) the name, address, mine identification number, and location of the mine; (3) the name and title of the company official responsible for the plan; (4) a description of the mine strata; (5) a description and drawings of the sequence of installation and spacing of supports for each method of mining used; (6) the maximum distance that an ATRS system is to be set beyond the last row of permanent support (if appropriate); (7) specifications and installation procedures for liners or arches (if appropriate); (8) drawings indicating the planned width of openings, size of

pillars, method of pillar recovery, and the sequence of mining pillars; (9) a list of all support materials required to be used in the roof, face and rib control system; (10) the intervals at which test holes will be drilled (if appropriate); and (11) a description of the methods to be used for the production of persons. Under 30 CFR 75.215, the roof control plan for each longwall mining section is required to specify the methods that will be used to maintain a safe travelway out of the section through the tailgate side of the longwall and the procedures that will be followed if a ground failure prevents travel out of the section through the tailgate side of the longwall.

Roof control plans are evaluated by Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) specialists on the basis of the criteria set forth in 30 CFR 75.222. The District Manager may require additional measures in plans and may approve roof control plans that do not conform to the applicable criteria in this section, provided that effective control of the roof, face, and ribs can be maintained.

Under 30 CFR 75.223, a mine operator is required to proposed revisions to the roof control plan when conditions indicate that the plan is not suitable for controlling the roof, face, ribs, or coal or rock bursts, or when accident and injury experience at the mine indicates the plan is inadequate. The regulation also requires mine operators to plot on a mine map each unplanned roof or rib fall and coal or rock burst that occurs in the active workings when certain criteria are met. Finally, the regulation requires MSHA to review the plan every 6 months.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

Currently, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection related to Roof Control Plans. MSHA is particularly interested in comments 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 may be obtained by contacting the employee listed above in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

III. Current Actions

Falls of roof, face and rib continue to be a leading cause of injuries and death in underground coal mines. All underground coal mine operators are required to develop and submit roof control plans to MSHA for evaluation and approval. These plans provide the means to instruct miners, who install roof supports, in the minimum requirements and placement of roof supports. The plan also provides a reference for mine supervisors to assist

them in compliance with the plan requirements. In that regard the plan is a working document for the miners.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Title: Roof Control Plan (30 CFR 75.215, 75.220, 75.221, 75.222, and 75.223).

Agency Number: 1219-0004.

Recordkeeping: Indefinite.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions.

Cite/reference	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response	Burden hours
75.220	10	On occasion	10	24 hours	240
75.223	1,020	On occasion	1,107	5 hours	5,535
75.223(b)	1,020	On occasion	2,400	5 minutes	192
Totals	2,050	3,517	1.7 hours	5,967

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): \$5,585.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 24, 1999.

Jay Mattos,

Acting Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources.

[FR Doc. 99-31177 Filed 11-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-M

MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

Commission Meeting

AGENCY: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Commission will hold its next public meeting on Thursday, December 9, 1999 and Friday, December 10, 1999 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 1250 22nd Street, NW, Washington, DC. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. on December 9, and 9 a.m. on December 10.

The Commission will discuss post-acute care quality initiatives, the home health prospective payment system, outpatient therapy services, a skilled nursing facility update framework, beneficiaries' financial liability and access to care, Medicare's role in the safety net, coding of evaluation and management services, a single update mechanism across ambulatory care

settings, hospital capital payment, Medicare hospital inpatient payments, the expanded hospital inpatient transfer policy, the most-of-Medicare margin, rebasing hospital inpatient payments, and ESRD payment reform.

Agendas will be mailed on Tuesday November 30, 1999. The final agenda will be available on the Commission's website (www.MedPAC.gov)

ADDRESSES: MedPAC's address is: 1730 K Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006. The telephone number is (202) 653-7220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Ellison, Office Manager, (202) 635-7220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: If you are not on the Commission mailing list and wish to receive an agenda, please call (202) 653-7220.

Murray N. Ross,
Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 99-31169 Filed 11-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-BW-M

NATIONAL SKILL STANDARDS BOARD

Notice of Open Meeting; Amended Time

AGENCY: National Skill Standards Board.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting; amended time.

SUMMARY: The National Skill Standards Board was established by an Act of Congress, the National Skill Standards Act, Title V, Pub. L. 103-227. The 27-member National Skill Standards Board will serve as a catalyst and be responsible for the development and implementation of a national system of voluntary skill standards and

certification through voluntary partnerships which have the full and balanced participation of business, industry, labor, education and other key groups. This notice amends the time of the meeting. The meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Friday, December 10, 1999. The meeting notice was originally published on Nov. 23, 1999 at 64 FR 65734-65735.

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to approximately 12 p.m. on Friday, December 10, 1999, at The Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 625 First Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

AGENDA: The agenda for the Board Meeting will include and update from the Board's committees and presentations from representatives of the Sales & Service Voluntary Partnership (SSVP) and Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The meeting, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., is open to the public. Seating is limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seats will be reserved for the media. Individuals with disabilities should contact Leslie Donaldson at (202) 254-8628, if special accommodations are needed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Wilcox, Deputy Executive Director at (202) 254-8628.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 24 day of November, 1999.

Eddie West,

Executive Director, National Skill Standards Board.

[FR Doc. 99-31179 Filed 11-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-23-M