

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to CERCLA

In accordance with Departmental policy, 28 CFR 50.7, and 42 U.S.C. § 9622(d), notice is hereby given that a proposed Consent Decree in *United States of America v. Waste Disposal Inc. et al.*, Civil Action No. 96-2124JWL was lodged on March 12, 1996 with the United States District Court for the District of Kansas.

In its Complaint, filed concurrently with the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, the United States alleges under Sections 106 and 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606 and 9607(a), that the defendants are liable for implementation of the remedial action and reimbursement of response costs incurred and to be incurred by the United States at the Doepke Holliday Superfund Site ("Site") located in Johnson County, Kansas.

Under the proposed Consent Decree, 70 Settling Defendants (including 33 *de minimis* parties) and two Settling Federal Agencies (the United States Air Force and the United States Army Reserve) have agreed to finance and implement the final remedial action for the Site which EPA estimates will cost approximately \$11,000,000. The Settling Defendants will also pay 100% of EPA's future response costs, including EPA's oversight costs for remedial implementation. Finally, the Settling Defendants have agreed to pay all of the United States' outstanding past response costs in the amount of \$1,341,520.89.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530, and should refer to *United States of America v. Waste Disposal Inc. et al.*, DOJ Ref. No. 90-11-3-600.

The proposed Consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, 500 State Avenue, Suite 360, Kansas City, Kansas 66101; the Region VII Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 726 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66101; and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 624-0892. A copy of the proposed Consent Decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005. In requesting a copy please refer

to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of \$29.50 (25 cents per page reproduction costs), payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Joel M. Gross,
Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section,
Environment and Natural Resources Division.
[FR Doc. 96-7898 Filed 4-1-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Notice of Changes in Status of Extended Benefit (EB) Periods for the State of Alaska and Puerto Rico

This notice announces changes in benefit period eligibility under the EB Program for the State of Alaska and Puerto Rico.

Summary

The following changes have occurred since the publication of the last notice regarding States' EB status:

- February 4, 1996—Alaska's 13-week insured unemployment rate for the week ending January 20, 1996 rose above 6.0 percent, causing the State to trigger "on" EM effective February 4, 1996.
- February 3, 1996—The 13-week insured unemployment rate for the week ending January 13, 1996 fell below 6.0 percent and was less than 120 percent of the average for the corresponding period for the prior two years, causing Puerto Rico to trigger "off" EB effective February 3, 1996.

Information for Claimants

The duration of benefits payable in the EB Program, and the terms and conditions on which they are payable, are governed by the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970, as amended, and the operating instructions issued to the States by the U.S. Department of Labor. In the case of a State beginning an EB period, the State employment security agency will furnish a written notice of potential entitlement to each individual who has exhausted all rights to regular benefits and is potentially eligible for extended benefits (20 CFR 615.13(c)(1)). In the case of a State ending an EB period, the State employment security agency will furnish a written notice to each individual who is filing claims for Extended Benefits informing them of the EB period and its effect on the individual's right to Extended Benefits (20 CFR 615.13(c)(4)).

Persons who believe they may be entitled to EB benefits, or who wish to inquire about their rights under the programs, should contact the nearest State employment service office or unemployment compensation claims office in their locality.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on March 21, 1996.

Timothy M. Barnicle,
Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training.

[FR Doc. 96-7946 Filed 4-1-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

Mine Safety and Health Administration

[MSHS Form 7000-2]

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Quarterly Mine Employment and Coal Production Report

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 proposed extension of the information collection related to the "Quarterly Mine Employment and Coal Production Report" (MSHA Form 7000-2). 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 of responses.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the person listed in the contact section of this notice.

DATES: Submit comments on or before June 3, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments shall be mailed to Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, 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@msha.gov (Internet E-mail), (703) 235-8378 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Sections 103(d), (h), and (j) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 authorize the recordkeeping and reporting requirements implemented in 30 CFR 50—Notification, Investigation, Reports and Records of Accidents, Injuries, Illnesses, Employment, and Coal Production in Mines. Part 50 consolidated the separate reporting systems under 30 CFR 80 which implemented sections 103(e), 111, and 508 of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969 and 30 CFR 58 which implemented sections 4 and 13 of the Federal Metal and Nonmetallic Mine Safety Act of 1966. In so doing, part 50 provided for uniform, industry-wide, mandatory reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Each operator of a mine in which an individual worked during any day of a calendar quarter is required to submit to MSHA a Quarterly Mine Employment and Coal Production Report (MSHA Form 7000-2) within 15 days after the end of each calendar quarter. The

MSHA Form 7000-2 is one of the two collection instruments (the other being the MSHA Form 7000-1) by which MSHA monitors its statutory mandate to reduce accidents, occupational injuries, and occupational illnesses among the nation's miners.

Data obtained from this form and MSHA Form 7000-1 provide MSHA with timely information for making decisions on improving its safety and health enforcement programs, redirecting its education and training efforts, and establishing priorities for technical assistance activities in mine safety and health. Maintaining a current data base allows MSHA to effectively direct resources to improve safety and health in the mining industry. This data base provides a means for directing efforts to areas or mines where hazardous trends are developing. This cannot be done using historical data exclusively. Information collected using this form and the MSHA Form 7000-1 is the most comprehensive and reliable occupational data available concerning the mining industry.

Data collected through these two forms enable MSHA to publish timely quarterly and annual statistics, reflecting current safety and health conditions in the mining industry. These data are used not only by MSHA, but also by other Federal and State agencies, health and safety researchers, and the mining community to assist in measuring and comparing the results of health and safety efforts both in the United States and internationally.

II. Current Actions

MSHA is seeking to continue collection of employment, hours worked, and coal production data through the use of this form. Data are needed from this form to correlate the exposure hours or hours worked, with reported injuries, in order to calculate incidence rates (the number of injuries occurring per 200,000 hours worked). Although there has been a significant decline in the number of occupational fatalities in the mining industry over the last decade, accidents, injuries, and illnesses continue to result in serious personal suffering as well as significant costs to the mining industry. Valid comparisons and analyses of the health and safety performance of the mining industry would not be possible without the employment and production data obtained from mine operators.

MSHA seeks to continue the frequency of collection in order for the Agency to properly assess the nature and extent of the safety and health conditions in today's mining environment, and to respond quickly to

developing trends. By requiring submission of the MSHA Form 7000-2 within 15 days after the close of each calendar quarter, MSHA is able to assess quickly whether there are changes occurring which would warrant special attention, as well as to fulfill its congressional requirement for publishing timely and comprehensive statistics on the safety and health of the mining workforce.

MSHA plans to provide the Energy Information Agency (EIA) of the U.S. Department of Energy with mine-specific coal production data as well as other related coal data files containing mine identification and associated information. This consolidation of certain EIA and MSHA data collection activities will reduce the overall reporting burden on coal mine operators and coal-producing contractors. The EIA estimates a reduction of 8,500 burden hours annually on this population.

In order to better serve the mining community, and to reduce the paperwork burden, MSHA provides for and encourages mine operators and mining contractors to submit Form 7000-2 electronically. MSHA is developing the methodology to allow electronic submission of the Form 7000-1 as well. MSHA is establishing the capability to allow mine operators and mining contractors to fax the completed Form 7000-2 in lieu of sending the form by mail. MSHA also is developing procedures for transmitting the required data via the Internet. Statistical compilations based on submitted information are already available on the Internet. For more information on this capability, refer to the person listed in the contact section of this notice.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Title: Quarterly Mine Employment and Coal Production Report.

OMB Number: 1219-0006.

Recordkeeping: 30 CFR 50.30(a) requires respondents to maintain a copy of the Form 7000-2 at the office closest to the mine for 5 years after submission.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Form: MSHA Form 7000-2.

Total Respondents: 19,935 mine operators and mining contractors.

Frequency: Quarterly.

Total Responses: 83,594 responses.

Average Time per Response: 37 minutes.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 51,562 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Cost: \$26,750.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and

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.

George M. Fesak,

Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources.

[FR Doc. 96-7945 Filed 4-1-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-M

[MSHA Form 7000-1]

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Mine Accident, Injury, and Illness Report

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 proposed extension of the information collection related to the "Mine Accident, Injury, and Illness Report" (MSHA Form 7000-1). 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 submission of responses.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the person listed below in the contact section of this notice.

DATES: Submit written comments to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before June 3, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments shall be mailed to Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, 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 gfsak@msha.gov (Internet E-mail), (703) 235-8378 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Sections 103(d), (h), and (j) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 authorize the recordkeeping and reporting requirements implemented in 30 CFR 50—Notification, Investigation, Reports and Records of Accidents, Injuries, Illnesses, Employment, and Coal Production in Mines. Part 50 consolidated the separate reporting systems under 30 CFR 80, which implemented sections 103(e), 111, and 508 of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969 and 30 CFR 58, which implemented sections 4 and 13 of the Federal Metal and Nonmetallic Mine Safety Act of 1966. In so doing, part 50 provided for uniform, industry-wide, mandatory reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Each mine operator is required to submit to MSHA a Mine Accident, Injury, and Illness Report (MSHA Form 7000-1) for each reportable accident, occupational injury, or illness within 10 working days after an accident or occupational injury occurs or an occupational illness is diagnosed. The MSHA form 7000-1 is one of two collection instruments (the other being the MSHA Form 7000-2 (by which the Agency monitors its statutory mandate to reduce accidents, occupational

injuries, and occupational illnesses among the nation's miners).

Data obtained from this form and MSHA Form 7000-2 provide MSHA with timely information for making decisions on improving its safety and health enforcement programs, redirecting its education and training efforts, and establishing priorities for technical assistance activities in mine safety and health. Maintaining a current data base allows MSHA to effectively direct resources to improve safety and health in the mining industry. This data base provides a means for directing efforts to areas or mines where hazardous trends are developing. This cannot be done using historical data exclusively. Information collected using this form and the MSHA Form 7000-2 is the most comprehensive and reliable occupational data available concerning the mining industry.

Data collected through these two forms enable MSHA to publish timely quarterly and annual statistics, reflecting current safety and health conditions in the mining industry. These data are used not only by MSHA, but also by other Federal and State agencies, health and safety researchers, and the mining community to assist in measuring and comparing the results of health and safety efforts both in the United States and internationally.

II. Current Actions

MSHA is seeking to continue collection of mine accident, injury, and illness data through the use of this form. Although there has been a significant decline in the number of mining fatalities over the last decade, accidents, injuries, and illnesses continue to result in serious personal suffering as well as significant costs to the mining industry.

MSHA seeks to continue the frequency of collection to enable the Agency to accurately assess the nature and extent of the safety and health conditions in today's mining environment, and to quickly identify and respond to developing trends. By requiring submission of the MSHA Form 7000-1 within 10 working days after an accident or occupational injury occurs or an occupational illness is diagnosed, MSHA is afforded the opportunity to promptly investigate the cause of the occurrence and to identify possible preventive measures.

In order to better serve the mining community, and to reduce the paperwork burden, MSHA is currently developing methodology to enable submission of the Form 7000-1 electronically. MSHA is establishing the capability to allow mine operators and mining contractors to fax the completed