

wildland fire management activities for units of the National Park System.

Copies of the proposed guidance document will be made available upon request by writing: Fire Policy, National Park Service, National Interagency Fire Center, 3833 So. Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705, or on the Internet at: <http://www.nps.gov/fire/fmpc/policy.htm>.

DATES: Written comments will be accepted until August 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to: Fire Policy, National Park Service, National Interagency Fire Center, 3833 So. Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Swain at the above address or by calling 208-376-5202.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NPS is revising the policies and procedures that guide its fire management activities. To accomplish this, the fire management policies included in "National Park Service Management Policies" (1988), are being revised and the *Wildland Fire Management Guidelines* (NPS-18, 1990) is being rescinded. The new policies will be issued as Director's Order #18, in conformance with the NPS's new system of internal guidance documents. Director's Order #18 will contain: (1) new policy statements to replace those now contained in the "Management Policies", and (2) new fire management procedures and standards that will be adhered to.

The 1994 wildland fire season created a renewed awareness and concern among Federal land management agencies and their constituents about the impacts of wildland fire. A Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review was chartered by the Departments of Interior and Agriculture to ensure that uniform Federal policies and cohesive interagency and

Inter-governmental fire management programs existed.

Early in the review process, internal and external ideas were sought and broad program management issues were identified. The review was announced and input was requested in the Federal Register on January 3, 1995 (60 FR 95). The input received was used to develop a draft report. The draft report was published in its entirety in the **Federal Register** on June 22, 1995 (60 FR 32485), and a 30-day public comment period was announced. The full report was also available on the Internet. Because of numerous requests to extend the comment period, the comment period did not end until September 25, 1995. A total of 308 comments were received on the draft report. The final report was

accepted by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture on December 18, 1995. From this report, uniform policies and cohesive fire management programs have been developed by the Federal land management agencies.

Director's Order #18 *Wildlife Fire Management*, will establish fire management policy throughout the NPS in concert with cooperating agencies. Director's Order #18 will be considered for adoption by the NPS after the comment period closes.

Dated: June 15, 1998.

Chris Andress,

Chief, Ranger Activities Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

June 22, 1998.

The Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). A copy of this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor, Departmental Clearance Officer, Todd R. Owen (202) 210-5096 ext. 143) or by E-Mail to Owen-Todd@dol.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY/TDD) may call (202) 219-4720 between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday-Friday.

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the Employment Standards Administration, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316), within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB 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.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Title: Employment Information Forms.

OMB Number: 1215-0001 (revision).

Form Numbers: WH-3 and WH-3 Spanish.

Frequency: On occasion.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 37,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 20 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 12,333 Hours.

Total annualized capital/startup costs: \$0.

Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$0.

Description: Forms WH-3 and WH-3 Spanish are optional forms used to obtain information from individuals about alleged violations of various laws enforced by the Wage and Hour Division. It is also used as a screening device to determine whether the Division has jurisdiction in handling the alleged violations.

Todd R. Owen,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-16937 Filed 6-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

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 other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95) (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 Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of a currently approved collection of information, Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 81-8 for investment of plan assets in certain types of short-term investments. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written must be submitted to the office listed in **ADDRESSES** section below on or before August 24, 1998. The Department of Labor 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;
- 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.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments regarding the collection of information of any or all of the Agencies. Send comments to Mr. Gerald B. Lindrew, Office of Policy and Research, U.S. Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-56457, Washington, D.C. 20210. Telephone: (202) 219-4782 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 81-8 permits the investment of plan assets which involve the purchase or other acquisition, holding, sale, exchange or redemption by or on behalf of an employee benefit plan of

certain types of short-term investments. These include investments in banker's acceptances, commercial paper, repurchase agreements, certificates of deposit, and bank securities. In absence of the exemption, certain aspects of these transactions might be prohibited by section 406 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA).

II. Current Actions

The Office of Management and Budget's approval of this ICR will expire on September 30, 1998. This existing collection of information should be continued because without the relieve provided by this exemption, plans would not be able to continue to invest plan assets in certain short term investments in debt obligations issued by certain persons who provide services to the plan or who are affiliated with such service providers. In most instances, the service providers engaging in such transactions with the plans are already providing services to the plan. Without this exemption, these types of transactions could not continue, causing disruption of the existing business practices of the plan and the businesses that service them.

In order to ensure that the exemption is not abused, that the rights of participants and beneficiaries are protected, and that the exemption's conditions are being complied with, the Department has included in the exemption two basic disclosure requirements. Both affect only the portion of the exemption dealing with repurchase agreements. The first requirement calls for the repurchase agreements between the seller and the plan to be in writing. These repurchase agreements cover a period of one year or less and may be in the form of a blanket agreement for one year. The second requirement obliges the seller of such repurchase agreements to agree to provide financial statements to the plan at the time of the sale and as the statements are issued. The seller must also represent, either in the repurchase agreement or prior to each repurchase agreement transaction, that as of the time the transaction is negotiated, there has been no material adverse change in the seller's financial condition since the date the most recent financial statement was furnished that has not been disclosed to the plan fiduciary with whom the written agreement is made. This requirement may be met by the seller stating in the repurchase agreement that by making the sale they are representing that there is no material or adverse change their financial condition.

Agency: Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

Title: Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 81-8 for Investment of Plan Assets in Certain Types of Short-Term Investments.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection.

OMB Number: 1210-0061.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

Total Respondents: 18,245.

Total Responses: 91,225.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Total Annual Burden: 15,204 hours.

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: June 19, 1998.

Gerald B. Lindrew,

Deputy Director, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Office of Policy and Research.

[FR Doc. 98-16936 Filed 6-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4570-29-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, provides 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 (PRA 95) (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 Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of a currently approved collection of information included in rules regarding participant directed individual account plans under section 404(c) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA)