

In applying the labor standards, the State agency must determine first whether the offered work is "new work." If it is "new work" a determination must be made as to (1) what is similar work to the offered work, and (2) what are the prevailing wages, hours, or other conditions for similar work in the locality, and (3) whether the offered work is substantially less favorable to the particular claimant than the prevailing wages, hours, or other conditions. The key words and phrases in this standard ("similar work," "locality," "substantially less favorable to the individual," and "wages, hours, and other conditions of work") are discussed in detail in the Bureau's statement, *Principles Underlying the Prevailing Conditions of Work Standard*, Benefit Series, September 1950, 1-BP-1, BSSUI (originally issued January 6, 1947 as Unemployment Compensation Program Letter No. 130).

Please bring this letter to the attention of State agency and Appeal Board personnel engaged in benefit claim adjudication at all levels.

RESCISSIONS: None.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Goodwin,

Administrator.

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Idaho plant. Accordingly, the Department is amending the certification to cover workers at the subject firms' Cascade and Horseshoe Bend, Idaho plants.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of Boise Cascade adversely affected by imports from Canada.

The amended notice applicable to NAFTA-02379 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Boise Cascade, Emmett Plywood, Emmett, Idaho (NAFTA-02379), Cascade, Idaho (NAFTA-02379B) and Horseshoe Bend, Idaho (NAFTA-02379C) who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after May 5, 1997 through August 10, 2000 are eligible to apply for NAFTA-TAA under Section 250 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, DC this 3rd day of September, 1998.

Linda G. Poole,

Acting Program Manager, Policy and Reemployment Services, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

## 2. Mettiki Coal Corporation

[Docket No. M-98-80-C]

Mettiki Coal Corporation, 293 Table Rock Road, Oakland, Maryland 21550 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1002-1 (location of other electric equipment; requirements for permissibility) to its Mettiki Mine (I.D. No. 18-00621) located in Garrett County, Maryland. The petitioner proposes to use nonpermissible low horsepower testing and diagnostic equipment within 150 feet from pillar workings. The petitioner asserts that application of the standard would result in a diminution of safety to the miners. In addition, the petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

## Request for Comments

Persons interested in these petitions are encouraged to submit comments via e-mail to "comments@msha.gov", or on a computer disk along with an original hard copy to the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, Virginia 22203. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before October 22, 1998. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated: September 17, 1998.

Patricia W. Silvey,

Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

[NAFTA-02379; 02379B; 02379C]

#### Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 250(a), Subchapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2273), the Department of Labor issued a Certification for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance on August 10, 1998, applicable to all workers of Boise Cascade, Emmett Plywood, Emmett, Idaho. The notice will be published soon in the **Federal Register**.

At the request of the company, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. New findings show that worker separations occurred at the subject firm's Cascade, Idaho plant. The company also reports that worker separations will occur at the Horseshoe Bend, Idaho facility when it closes September 30, 1998. The workers at the Cascade and Horseshoe Bend, Idaho facilities process logs into green lumber that is used in the manufacturing of plywood. The production of green lumber at Boise Cascade's Cascade and Horseshoe Bend, Idaho plants contribute to the production of plywood at Boise Cascade's Emmett Plywood, Emmett,

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Mine Safety and Health Administration

#### Petitions for Modification

The following parties have filed petitions to modify the application of mandatory safety standards under section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

#### 1. Independence Coal Company

[Docket No. M-98-79-C]

Independence Coal Company, HC 78 Box 1800, Madison, West Virginia 25130 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1002 (location of trolley wires, trolley feeder wires, high-voltage cables and transformers) to its Justice No. 1 Mine (I.D. No. 46-07273) located in Boone County, West Virginia. The petitioner proposes to use high-voltage longwall mining equipment. The petitioner asserts that the nominal voltage of the longwall power circuit(s) would not exceed 4,160 volts. In addition, the petitioner asserts that the specific terms and conditions listed in this petition would be followed and proposed revisions that specify initial and refresher training regarding these terms and conditions for its approved Part 48 training plan would be submitted to the District Manager within 60 days after the proposed decision and order becomes final. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Occupational Safety and Health Administration

#### Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health; Notice of Open Meeting

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

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH) will meet October 7 and 8, 1998, at the Frances Perkins Department of Labor Building, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. This meeting is open to the public.

DATES: This ACCSH meeting will be held on October 7 and 8, 1998 as

described further in the body of this document.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For further information contact Theresa Berry, Office of Public Affairs, Room N-3647, telephone (202) 219-8615 Ext. 106, at the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, 20210.

An official record of the meeting will be available for public inspection at the OSHA Docket Office, Room N-2625, telephone 202-219-7894. All ACCSH meetings and those of its work groups are open to the public. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations should contact Theresa Berry no later than September 30, 1998 at the above address.

ACCSH was established under section 107(e)(1) of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 333) and section 7(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 656).

ACCSH will meet from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 7 and from 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, October 8 in Rooms N-5437 B, C, and D.

The agenda items for the October 7 and 8, 1998 meeting include: Remarks by the Assistant Secretary for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Charles N. Jeffress.

Construction Standards and Policy Updates to include the Proposed Standard on Subpart R "Steel Erection", the Status of the Construction Safety and Health Management Standard, the Proposed Revisions to Multi-employer Policy, and other construction related issues.

ACCSH Work Group Updates, to include such subjects as; Sanitation, Data Collection/Enforcement, Confined Space, Scaffolds, and Musculoskeletal Disorders.

For information on ACCSH Work Group meeting schedules or topics, contact Jim Boom, Directorate of Construction, Office of Construction Services, Room N-3603, Telephone 202-219-8136, extension 143.

Interested persons may submit written data, views or comments, preferably with 20 copies, to Theresa Berry, at the address above. Those submissions, received prior to the meeting will be provided to ACCSH and will be included in the record of the meeting.

Interested persons may also request to make an oral presentation by notifying Theresa Berry before the meeting. The request must state the amount of time desired, the interest that the person represents, and a brief outline of the presentation. ACCSH may grant

requests, as time permits, at the discretion of the Acting Chair of ACCSH.

Signed at Washington, DC this 16th day of September, 1998.

**Charles N. Jeffress,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor.*

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**TITLE OF COLLECTION:** 1999 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (OMB Control No. 3145-0020).

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Under the paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), and as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the National Science Foundation (NSF) is inviting the general public or other Federal agencies to comment on this proposed continuing information collection.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or for a copy of the collection instrument and instructions contact Ms. Mary Lou Higgs, Acting Clearance Officer, via surface mail: National Science Foundation, ATTN: NSF Reports Clearance Officer, Suite 295, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230; telephone (703) 306-2063; e-mail mlhiggs@nsf.gov; or FAX (703) 306-0201.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### 1. Abstract

The Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR) has been conducted biennially since 1973. From the 1999 cycle, a sample of individuals under the age of 76 who have earned doctoral degrees in science and engineering from U.S. institutions will be surveyed. The purpose of the study is to provide national estimates describing the relationship between education and employment for Ph.D. recipients in science and engineering. The study is one of three components of the Scientists and Engineers Statistical Data System (SESTAT), which produces national estimates of the size and characteristics of the nation's science and engineering population.

The National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as subsequently amended, includes a statutory charge to ". . . provide a central clearinghouse for the

collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on scientific and engineering resources, and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the Federal Government." The Survey of Doctorate Recipients is designed to comply with these mandates by providing information on the supply and utilization of doctorate level scientists and engineers. Collected data will be used to produce estimates of the characteristics of these individuals. They will also provide necessary input into the SESTAT labor force data system, which produces national estimates of the size and characteristics of the country's science and engineering population. The Foundation uses this information to prepare congressionally mandated reports such as Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering and Science and Engineering Indicators. A public release file of collected data, designed to protect respondent confidentiality, is expected to be made available to researchers on CD-ROM and on the World Wide Web.

Questionnaires will be mailed in April 1999 and nonrespondents to the mail questionnaire computer assisted telephone interviewing (CATI). The survey will be collected in conformance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the individual's response to the survey is voluntary. NSF will insure that all information collected will be kept strictly confidential and will be used only for research or statistical purposes, analyzing data, and preparing scientific reports and articles.

##### 2. Expected Respondents

We will mail the survey to a statistical sample of approximately 40,000 U.S. doctorates.

##### 3. Burden on the Public

The amount of time to complete the questionnaire may vary depending on an individual's circumstances; however, on average it will take approximately 25 minutes to complete the survey. We estimate that the total annual burden will be 16,666 hours during the year.

##### Comments Requested

**DATES:** Send written comments to NSF on or before November 23, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments to Ms. Mary Lou Higgs, Acting Clearance Officer, through surface mail at: National Science Foundation, ATTN: NSF Reports Clearance Officer, Suite 295, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230; through e-mail mlhiggs@nsf.gov; or FAX (703) 306-0201.