

Mine. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the existing standard.

#### Request for Comments

Persons interested in these petitions are encouraged to submit comments via e-mail to [comments@msha.gov](mailto: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, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2350, Arlington, Virginia 22209. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before March 22, 2004. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated in Arlington, Virginia this 12th day of February, 2004.

**Marvin W. Nichols, Jr.,**

*Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.*

[FR Doc. 04-3572 Filed 2-18-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-43-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Veterans' Employment and Training

#### President's National Hire Veterans Committee; Notice of Open Meeting

The President's National Hire Veterans Committee was established under 38 U.S.C. 4100 note Public Law 107-288, Jobs For Veterans Act, to furnish information to employers with respect to the training and skills of veterans and disabled veterans, and the advantages afforded employers by hiring veterans with such training and skills and to facilitate employment of veterans and disabled veterans through participation in Career One Stop national labor exchange, and other means.

The President's National Hire Veterans Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 25, 2004, beginning at 2 p.m. at the Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515, Room 2216.

The committee will discuss raising employers awareness of the advantages of hiring veterans.

Signed at Washington, DC this 12th day of February, 2004.

**Frederic Juarbe Jr.,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.*

[FR Doc. 04-3556 Filed 2-18-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-79-P**

## NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

### Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice at least once monthly of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). Once approved by NARA, records schedules provide mandatory instructions on what happens to records when no longer needed for current Government business. They authorize the preservation of records of continuing value in the National Archives of the United States and the destruction, after a specified period, of records lacking administrative, legal, research, or other value. Notice is published for records schedules in which agencies propose to destroy records not previously authorized for disposal or reduce the retention period of records already authorized for disposal. NARA invites public comments on such records schedules, as required by 44 U.S.C. 3303a(a).

**DATES:** Requests for copies must be received in writing on or before April 5, 2004. Once the appraisal of the records is completed, NARA will send a copy of the schedule. NARA staff usually prepare appraisal memorandums that contain additional information concerning the records covered by a proposed schedule. These, too, may be requested and will be provided once the appraisal is completed. Requesters will be given 30 days to submit comments.

**ADDRESSES:** You may request a copy of any records schedule identified in this notice by contacting the Life Cycle Management Division (NWML) using one of the following means:

*Mail:* NARA (NWML), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001;  
*E-mail:* [records.mgt@nara.gov](mailto:records.mgt@nara.gov);  
*FAX:* 301-837-3698.

Requesters must cite the control number, which appears in parentheses after the name of the agency which submitted the schedule, and must provide a mailing address. Those who desire appraisal reports should so indicate in their request.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul M. Wester, Jr., Director, Life Cycle Management Division (NWML), National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road,

College Park, MD 20740-6001.  
Telephone: 301-837-3120. E-mail: [records.mgt@nara.gov](mailto:records.mgt@nara.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Each year Federal agencies create billions of records on paper, film, magnetic tape, and other media. To control this accumulation, agency records managers prepare schedules proposing retention periods for records and submit these schedules for NARA's approval, using the Standard Form (SF) 115, Request for Records Disposition Authority. These schedules provide for the timely transfer into the National Archives of historically valuable records and authorize the disposal of all other records after the agency no longer needs them to conduct its business. Some schedules are comprehensive and cover all the records of an agency or one of its major subdivisions. Most schedules, however, cover records of only one office or program or a few series of records. Many of these update previously approved schedules, and some include records proposed as permanent.

No Federal records are authorized for destruction without the approval of the Archivist of the United States. This approval is granted only after a thorough consideration of their administrative use by the agency of origin, the rights of the Government and of private persons directly affected by the Government's activities, and whether or not they have historical or other value.

Besides identifying the Federal agencies and any subdivisions requesting disposition authority, this public notice lists the organizational unit(s) accumulating the records or indicates agency-wide applicability in the case of schedules that cover records that may be accumulated throughout an agency. This notice provides the control number assigned to each schedule, the total number of schedule items, and the number of temporary items (the records proposed for destruction). It also includes a brief description of the temporary records. The records schedule itself contains a full description of the records at the file unit level as well as their disposition. If NARA staff has prepared an appraisal memorandum for the schedule, it too includes information about the records. Further information about the disposition process is available on request.

#### Schedules Pending

1. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service (N1-462-03-1, 9 items, 9 temporary items).