

initiated on October 16, 2003, in response to a petition filed by the TAA Division Coordinator Employment Development Department on behalf of workers at West Coast Fashion, Inc., South El Monte, California.

The petitioner has requested that the petition be withdrawn. Consequently, the investigation has been terminated.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 18th day of November, 2003.

Richard Church,

Certifying Officer, Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 03-29668 Filed 11-26-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request; Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Form ETA-232. The Domestic Agricultural In-Season Wage Report, and Form ETA-232-A, Wage Survey Interview Record

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on the proposed and/or continuing collection 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 27, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to John R. Beverly, III, Administrator, Office of National Programs, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room C-4318, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210-0001, 202-693-3010 (this is not a toll-free number), fax 202-693-2769.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Carlson, Chief, Division of Foreign Labor Certification, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room C-4318, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210-0001, 202-693-3010 (this is not a toll-free number), fax 202-693-2769.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Wagner-Peyser Act, as amended, provides that the Office of National Programs shall assist the State public employment services throughout the country in promoting uniformity in its administrative and statistical procedures, furnishing and publishing information as to opportunities for employment and other information of value in the operation of its system, and maintaining a system for clearing labor between the States.

Pursuant to the Wagner-Peyser Act, the U.S. Department of Labor has established regulations at 20 CFR 653.500 covering the processing of agricultural intrastate and interstate job orders. Section 563.501 provides that the wage offered by employers must not be less than the prevailing wage or the applicable Federal or State minimum wage; whichever is higher. Also, the regulations for the temporary employment of alien agricultural and logging workers in the United States, 20 CFR part 655, subparts B and C, for the H-2A program, under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, requires farmers and other agricultural employers to pay workers the adverse effect wage rate, the prevailing wage rate, or the legal Federal or State minimum wage rate; whichever is highest.

The prevailing wage rate is used to implement these regulations covering intrastate and interstate recruitment of farmworkers. The vehicle for establishing the prevailing wage rate is Form ETA-232, The Domestic Agricultural In-Season Wage Report, and Form ETA-232-A, Wage Survey Interview Record. The ETA-232 Report contains the prevailing wage finding based on survey data collected from employers and reported by the States on Form ETA-232-A.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

Currently, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting

comments concerning the proposed request to extend the expiration date of the collection request to:

*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 required 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 (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed above in the addressee section of this notice.

III. Current Actions

Activity covered by regulations at 20 CFR 653.500 and 20 CFR part 655, subparts B and C, particularly the H-2A program, continues to expand, further increasing the need for accurate and timely wage information on which to base prevailing agricultural wage determinations. There is no similar wage information which is available or can be used for these determinations which apply to a specific crop of livestock activity, in a specific agricultural wage reporting area for a specific period of time during the peak harvest season.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration.

Title: Domestic Agricultural In-Season Wage Report, Form ETA-232 and Wage Survey Interview Record, Form ETA-232-A.

OMB Number: 1205-0017.

Cite/Reference/Form/etc: ETA-232 and ETA 232-A, See below.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 16,301.

Form/activity	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response (hours)	Burden (hours)
ETA-232	600	Annually	600	11	6600

Form/activity	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response (hours)	Burden (hours)
ETA-232-A	38,805	Annually	38,805	1/4	9,701
Totals	39,405	16,301

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): 0.
Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining):

Business: The salary range of representatives of business respondents (employees of small family owned farms up through large agribusiness farms) can be from the minimum wage to several hundred thousand dollars for a CEO. Therefore, the hourly salaries of individuals participating in the wage survey ranges from \$5.15 to \$300 or more per hour.

State Government: Average cost of the State agencies conducting the Agricultural Wage Surveys range from \$1,500 to \$6,000 per survey, depending upon the complexity of the crop or livestock activity to be surveyed, including considerations such as size of the employer and worker universe, and the geographic expanse of the wage reporting areas.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request 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 20, 2003.

Emily Stover DeRocco,

Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration; Wage and Hour Division

Minimum Wages for Federal and Federally Assisted Construction; General Wage Determination Decisions

General wage determination decisions of the Secretary of Labor are issued in accordance with applicable law and are based on the information obtained by the Department of Labor from its study of local wage conditions and data made available from other sources. They specify the basic hourly wage rates and fringe benefits which are determined to be prevailing for the described classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction projects of a similar

character and in the localities specified therein.

The determinations in these decisions of prevailing rates and fringe benefits have been made in accordance with 29 CFR part 1, by authority of the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act of March 3, 1931, as amended (46 Stat. 1494, as amended, 40 U.S.C. 276a) and of other Federal statutes referred to in 29 CFR part 1, appendix, as well as such additional statutes as may from time to time be enacted containing provisions for the payment of wages determined to be prevailing by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act. The prevailing rates and fringe benefits determined in these decisions shall, in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing statutes, constitute the minimum wages payable on Federal and federally assisted construction projects to laborers and mechanics of the specified classes engaged on contract work of the character and in the localities described therein.

Good cause is hereby found for not utilizing notice and public comment procedure thereon prior to the issuance of these determinations as described in 5 U.S.C. 553 and not providing for delay in the effective date as prescribed in that section, because the necessity to issue current construction industry wage determinations frequently and in large volume causes procedures to be impractical and contrary to the public interest.

General wage determination decisions, and modifications and supersede decisions thereto, contain no expiration dates and are effective from their date of notice in the **Federal Register**, or on the date written notice is received by the agency, whichever is earlier. These decisions are to be used in accordance with the provisions of 29 CFR parts 1 and 5. Accordingly, the applicable decision, together with any modifications issued, must be made a part of every contract for performance of the described work within the geographic area indicated as required by an applicable Federal prevailing wage law and 29 CFR part 5. The wage rates and fringe benefits, notice of which is published herein, and which are contained in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled

“General Wage Determinations Issued Under The Davis-Bacon And Related Acts,” shall be the minimum paid by contractors and subcontractors to laborers and mechanics.

Any person, organization, or governmental agency having an interest in the rates determined as prevailing is encouraged to submit wage rate and fringe benefit information for consideration by the Department.

Further information and self-explanatory forms for the purpose of submitting this data may be obtained by writing to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division, Division of Wage Determinations, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room S-3014, Washington, DC 20210.

Modification to General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of the decisions listed to the Government Printing Office document entitled “General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts” being modified are listed by Volume and State. Dates of publication in the **Federal Register** are in parentheses following the decisions being modified.

Volume I

None

Volume II

Pennsylvania:

PA030001 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030002 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030004 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030006 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030007 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030008 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030009 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030011 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030016 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030017 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030018 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030023 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030024 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030025 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030026 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030030 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030031 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030038 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030059 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030060 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 PA030065 (Jun. 13, 2003)

West Virginia:

WV030001 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 WV030002 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 WV030003 (Jun. 13, 2003)
 WV030010 (Jun. 13, 2003)