

approximately 200 DEA registered bulk and dosage from manufacturers of Schedules I and II controlled substances. The quotas are necessary to provide for the estimated medical, scientific, research and industrial needs of the United States, for export requirements and the establishment and maintenance of reserve stocks. While aggregate production quotas are of primary importance to large manufacturers, their impact upon small entities is neither negative nor beneficial. Accordingly, the Acting Deputy Administrator has determined that this action does not require a regulatory flexibility analysis.

Donnie R. Marshall,

Acting Deputy Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-19084 Filed 7-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-09-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Solicitor

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Equal Access to Justice Act

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. 3505(c)(2)(A)]. The 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 the collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently the Office of the Solicitor is soliciting comment concerning the proposed extension of the information collection request (ICR) for applications to obtain awards in administrative proceedings subject to the Equal Access to Justice Act.

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; 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.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted by September 15, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments are to be submitted to Department of Labor/The Office of Solicitor Attn: Peter Galvin, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. (Room N-2428) Washington D.C. 20210). Written comments limited to 10 pages or fewer may be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 219-6896.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Peter Galvin, The Office of Solicitor, telephone (202) 219-8065 or Todd Owen at (202) 219-5096 (ext 143). Copies of the referenced information collection request are available in room N-1301, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. A copy of the ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor, Departmental Clearance Officer, Todd R. Owen ((202) 219-5096 Ext. 143) or by E-Mail to Owen-Todd@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Equal Access to Justice Act provides for the award of fees and expenses to certain parties involved in administrative proceedings with the United States. The statute requires, at 5 U.S.C. sec. 504(a)(2), that a party seeking an award of fees and other expenses in a covered administrative proceeding must submit to the agency "an application which shows that the party is prevailing party and is eligible to receive an award" under the Act. The Department of Labor's regulations implementing the Equal Access to Justice Act contain a subpart which specifies the contents of applications for an award, 29 CFR Part 16, Subpart B.

II. Current Actions

This notice requests an extension of the current Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of the paperwork requirements for the

contents of applications for an award under the Equal Access to Justice Act.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Office of the Solicitor.

Title: Equal Access to Justice Act.

OMB Number: 1225-0013.

Affected Public: Individuals or household; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Total Respondents: 10.

Frequency: On occasion.

Total Responses: 10.

Average Time per Response: 5 hours.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: 1 hour.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: 0.

Total initial costs: 0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and may be included in the request for OMB approval of the final information collection request. The comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 13, 1998.

Robert A. Shapiro,

Associate Solicitor for Legislation and Legal Counsel.

[FR Doc. 98-19111 Filed 7-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-23-M

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 prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 553 and nor 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 supersedes 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, N.W., Room S-3014, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Modifications to General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of decisions listed in 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

Massachusetts

MA980001 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980002 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980003 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980005 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980007 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980010 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980012 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980012 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980015 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980017 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980018 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980019 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980020 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980021 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Rhode Island

RI980001 (Feb. 13, 1998)
RI980002 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Vermont

VT980025 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Volume II

Delaware

DE980001 (Feb. 13, 1998)
DE980002 (Feb. 13, 1998)
DE980004 (Feb. 13, 1998)
DE980005 (Feb. 13, 1998)
DE980009 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Volume III

Georgia

GA980003 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980004 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980032 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980033 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980050 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980065 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980073 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980085 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980086 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980087 (Feb. 13, 1998)
GA980088 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Volume IV

Illinois

IL980016 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Wisconsin

WI980020 (Feb. 13, 1998)
WI980021 (Feb. 13, 1998)
WI980030 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Volume V

Iowa

IA980004 (Feb. 13, 1998)
IA980005 (Feb. 13, 1998)
IA980017 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Nebraska

NE980007 (Feb. 13, 1998)
NE980009 (Feb. 13, 1998)
NE980010 (Feb. 13, 1998)
NE980011 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Volume VI

Colorado

CO98001 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980002 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980003 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980005 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980006 (Feb. 13, 1998)
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CO980018 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980021 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980022 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980023 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980024 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CO980025 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Idaho

ID980001 (Feb. 13, 1998)
ID980003 (Feb. 13, 1998)
ID980013 (Feb. 13, 1998)
ID980014 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Oregon

OR980001 (Feb. 13, 1998)
OR980004 (Feb. 13, 1998)
OR980017 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Volume VII

Arizona

AZ980002 (Feb. 13, 1998)
AZ980004 (Feb. 13, 1998)
AZ980016 (Feb. 13, 1998)
AZ980017 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CA980029 (Feb. 13, 1998)

General Wage Determination Publication

General wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts, including those noted above, may be found in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under The Davis-Bacon and Related Acts." This publication is available at each of the 50 Regional Government Depository Libraries and many of the 1,400 Government Depository Libraries across the country.

The general wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts are available electronically by subscription to the FedWorld Bulletin Board System of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) of the U.S. Department of Commerce at (703) 487-4630.

Hard-copy subscriptions may be purchased from: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, (202) 512-1800.

When ordering hard-copy subscription(s), be sure to specify the State(s) of interest, since subscriptions may be ordered for any or all of the seven separate volumes, arranged by State. Subscriptions include an annual edition (issued in January or February)

which includes all current general wage determinations for the States covered by each volume. Throughout the remainder of the year, regular weekly updates are distributed to subscribers.

Signed at Washington, D.C. This 9th Day of July, 1998.

Carl J. Poleskey,

Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

[FR Doc. 98-18828 Filed 7-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

AGENCY: 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. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden is minimized, reporting forms are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed revision of the "Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries." A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the addresses section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before September 15, 1998.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics 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.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Karin G. Kurz, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 3255, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE., Washington, D.C. 20212. For further information contact Ms. Kurz on 202-605-7628 (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) was delegated responsibility by the Secretary of Labor for implementing Section 24(a) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. This section states the "the Secretary shall compile accurate statistics on work injuries and illnesses which shall include all disabling, serious, or significant injuries and illnesses * * *"

Prior to the implementation of the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), BLS generated estimates of occupational fatalities for private sector employers from a sample survey of about 280,000 establishments. Studies showed that occupational fatalities were underreported in those estimates as well as those compiled by regulatory, vital statistics, and workers' compensation systems. Estimates varied widely between 3,000 and 10,00 annually. In addition, information needed to develop prevention strategies was often missing from these earlier programs.

In the late 1980s, the National Academy of Sciences study, *Counting Injuries and Illnesses in the Workplace*, and the report, *Keystone National Policy Dialogue on Work-Related Illness and Injury Recordkeeping*, emphasized the need for BLS to compile a complete roster of work-related fatalities because of concern over the accuracy of using a sample survey to estimate the incidence of occupational fatalities. These studies also recommended the use of all available data sources to compile detailed information for fatality prevention efforts.

BLS tested the feasibility of collecting fatality data in this manner in 1989 and 1990. The resulting CFOI was implemented in 32 States in 1991. National data covering all 50 States and

the District of Columbia was compiled and published for 1992-1996, approximately eight months after each calendar year.

The CFOI compiles comprehensive, accurate, and timely information on work-injury fatalities needed to develop effective prevention strategies. The system collects information concerning the incident, demographic information on the deceased, and characteristics of the employer.

Data are used to:

- develop employee safety training programs;
- develop and assess the effectiveness of safety standards;
- conduct research for developing prevention strategies; and
- compare fatalities between States.

In addition, States use the data to publish State reports, to identify State-specific hazards, to allocate resources for promoting safety in the workplace, and to evaluate the quality of work life in the State.

II. Current Actions

In 1996, 6,112 workers lost their lives as a result of injuries received on the job. This official systematic, verifiable count mutes controversy over the various counts from different sources. The CFOI count has been adopted by the National Safety Council and other organizations as the sole source of a comprehensive count of fatal work injuries for the U.S. If this information were not collected, the confusion over the number and patterns in fatal occupational injuries would continue, thus hampering prevention efforts. By providing timely occupational fatality data, the CFOI program provides safety and health managers the information necessary to respond to emerging workplace hazards.

In 1997, BLS Washington staff responded to over 3,000 requests for CFOI data from various organizations. (This figure excludes requests received by the States for State-specific data.) In addition, BLS Washington staff responded to numerous requests from safety organizations for staff members to participate in safety conferences and seminars. The CFOI research file, made available to safety and health groups, is being used by 50 organizations to conduct studies on specific topics, such as protective equipment use, forklift injuries, tractor-trailer tipovers, powerline electrocutions, homicides, construction industry falls, highway construction, and logging and forestry fatalities. (A current list of research articles and reports that include CFOI data can be found in BLS Report 922,