

health of employees engaged in hazardous waste site operations and emergency response to the release of hazardous substances from their containers. It was mandated by Congress under section 126 of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA). Worker populations covered by the rule include workers at Superfund clean-sites and similar operations, workers at EPA permitted disposal sites, and emergency response workers at those sites, firefighters, emergency medical service personnel, police, and others involved in hazardous substance emergency response. Employers can use the information collected under the rule to develop the various programs the standard requires and to ensure that their employees are trained properly about the safety and health hazards associated with hazardous waste operations and emergency response to hazardous waste releases. OSHA will use the records developed in response to this standard to ensure adequate compliance with the safety and health provisions. The employer's failure to collect and distribute the information required in this standard will affect significantly OSHA's effort to control and reduce injuries and fatalities. Such failure would also be contrary to the direction Congress provided in SARA.

Maureen Hill,

Acting Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-22338 Filed 8-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-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 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 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, NW, Room S-3014, Washington, DC 20210.

Withdrawn General Wage Determination Decisions

This is to advise all interested parties that the Department of Labor is withdrawing, from the date of this notice, the following General Wage Determinations:

MO990008 (See MO990045)

MO990047 (See MO990045)

Contracts for which bids have been opened shall not be affected by this notice. Also, consistent with 29 CFR 1.6(c)(i)(A), when the opening of bids is less than ten (10) days from the date of this notice, this action shall be effective unless the agency finds that there is insufficient time to notify bidders of the change and the finding is documented in the contract file.

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

None

Volume II

Virginia

VA990003 (Mar. 12, 1999)

VA990022 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Volume III

Georgia

GA990050 (Mar. 12, 1999)

GA990053 (Mar. 12, 1999)

GA990073 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Kentucky

KY990025 (Mar. 12, 1999)

KY990028 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Volume IV

Indiana

IN990010 (Mar. 12, 1999)

IN990039 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Michigan

MI990005 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990007 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990040 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990046 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990047 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990060 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990062 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990077 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990078 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990082 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990083 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990085 (Mar. 12, 1999)

MI990087 (Mar. 12, 1999)
Ohio
OH990001 (Mar. 12, 1999)
OH990002 (Mar. 12, 1999)
OH990012 (Mar. 12, 1999)
OH990026 (Mar. 12, 1999)
OH990028 (Mar. 12, 1999)
OH990029 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Wisconsin
WI990015 (Mar. 12, 1999)
WI990027 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Volume V

Louisiana
LA990001 (Mar. 12, 1999)
LA990004 (Mar. 12, 1999)
LA990005 (Mar. 12, 1999)
LA990009 (Mar. 12, 1999)
LA990014 (Mar. 12, 1999)
LA990018 (Mar. 12, 1999)
LA990055 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Missouri
MO990017 (Mar. 12, 1999)
MO990018 (Mar. 12, 1999)
MO990045 (Mar. 12, 1999)
MO990060 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Nebraska
NE990011 (Mar. 12, 1999)
NE 990038 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Volume VI

Alaska
AK990001 (Mar. 12, 1999)

Volume VII

None

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 1-800-363-2068.

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, DC this 20th day of August 1999.

Carl J. Poleskey,
Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

[FR Doc. 99-22023 Filed 8-26-99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Proposed collection; comment request

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 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. 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: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice on or before October 26, 1999. 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, N.E., Washington, DC 20212. Ms. Kurz can be reached on 202-606-7628 (this is not a toll free number).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karin G. Kurz, BLS Clearance Officer. (See **ADDRESSES** section.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Proposed Collection

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed new collection of the "Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS)." A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

II. Background

The JOLTS will provide data on job vacancies, labor hires, and labor separations. The data can be used as demand-side indicators of labor shortages. These indicators of labor shortages at the national level would greatly enhance policy makers' understanding of imbalances between the demand and supply of labor. Presently there is no economic indicator of the demand for labor with which to assess the presence of labor shortages in the U.S. labor market. The availability of unfilled jobs (the number of job vacancies or the vacancy rate) is an important measure of tightness of job markets, parallel to existing measures of unemployment.

JOLTS statistics will reveal structural labor market conditions, such as the effectiveness of job matching and training processes, implications of unemployment insurance and welfare, and deficient demand for labor.

JOLTS statistics can be used for the following purposes:

- As an indicator of business cycles and their causes and consequences;
- As a basic economic indicator of growth, productivity and welfare;
- As a tool for considering the implications of unemployment policy, labor market policy; and
- As an indicator of inflation and wage growth.

The ratio of the unemployment rate to the vacancy rate can be a very powerful indicator and reveal important information about how to effectively manage unemployment. As recently as 1998, Robert M. Solow in *Proceedings of the British Academy* noted that, ". . . national unemployment counts exist almost everywhere, whereas vacancy statistics are quite rare."