

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Office of the Secretary****Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Department of Labor****AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, Labor.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Department of Labor are available in final form on the DOL web site <http://www.dol.gov/informationquality.htm>.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Information correction requests and appeals can be submitted to DOL by communicating with one of the following components: (1) Agency Point of Contact (POC) provided on the DOL web site; (2) agency specific web sites (*i.e.*, OSHA.gov); or (3) Mr. Ira L. Mills, Information Technology Center, Room N-1301, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210, fax (202) 693-4228, e-mail *mail to: Mills-Ira@dol.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Ira Mills, Information Technology Center, telephone (202) 693-4122 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 22, 2002, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published a **Federal Register** notice (67 FR 8452-8460) Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies; Notice; Republication. The guidelines state that each agency must prepare a draft report, no later than May 1, 2002 (as amended, **Federal Register** Notice, 67 FR 9797, March 4, 2002), and a final report, no later than October 1, 2002, providing the agency's information quality guidelines and explaining how such guidelines will ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information including statistical information disseminated by the agency. These reports must also detail the administrative mechanisms developed by that agency to allow affected persons to seek and obtain appropriate correction of information maintained and disseminated by the agency that does not comply with the OMB or the agency guidelines. Each agency must publish a notice of availability of the

draft and final reports in the **Federal Register**, and post the reports on the agency's website. On May 1, 2002, the DOL published a **Federal Register** notice (67 FR 21776-21777), posted the draft Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Department of Labor on the DOL website, and provided the public with a 30-day opportunity to comment period. On June 6, 2002, the Department published a 30-day public comment extension notice in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 39050). The DOL has now posted the final Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Department of Labor on the DOL website as referenced above in the Summary section of this notice.

Signed at Washington, DC this 24th day of September 2002.

Patrick Pizzella,

Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Chief Information Officer.

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BILLING CODE 4510-23-P**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Employment Standards Administration****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 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. 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. Currently, the Employment Standards Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension collection: Request to be Selected as Payee (CM-910). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this Notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before December 2, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Ms. Patricia A. Forkel, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S-3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-0339, fax (202) 693-1451, e-mail *pforkel@fenix2.dol-esa.gov*. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or e-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background**

Benefits are payable by the Department of Labor to coal miners who are totally disabled due to pneumoconiosis and to certain of the miner's survivors under the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended (U.S.C. 901). If a beneficiary is incapable of handling their affairs, the person or institution responsible for their care is required to apply to receive the benefits on the beneficiary's behalf. The CM-910 is the form completed by representative payee applicants. Regulations 20 CFR 725.504-513 require the collection of this information. This information collection is currently approved for use through February 28, 2003.

II. Review Focus

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 submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions

The Department of Labor seeks the extension of approval to collect this information in order to carry out its responsibility to evaluate an applicant's ability to be a representative payee and to determine that the beneficiary's best