

## II. Current Actions

MSHA uses the information to issue a permanent MSHA identification number to the independent contractor. This number allows MSHA to keep track of a contractor's violation history so that appropriate civil penalties can be assessed for violations of the Mine Act or its accompanying mandatory health and safety standards.

There are no revisions to this existing collection, MSHA is requesting that the approval be extended for three years.

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement.

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration.

*Title:* Identification of Independent Contractors.

*OMB Number:* 1219-0043.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Cite/Reference/Form/etc.:* 30 CFR 45.3.

*Total Respondents:* 1,207.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Total Responses:* 1,207.

*Average Time per Response:* 8 minutes.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 161 hours.

*Estimated Total Burden Cost:* \$387.

Comments submitted in response to this notice 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: February 28, 1997.

George M. Fesak,

Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources.

[FR Doc. 97-5648 Filed 3-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-M

## Occupational Safety and Health Administration

### Proposed information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution; Electrical Protective Equipment (1218-0190)

**ACTION:** None.

**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 (PRA 95) (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 impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of approval for the paperwork requirement of 29 CFR 1910.269 and 1910.137, Electric power generation, transmission, and distribution; and electrical protective equipment.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 6, 1997.

Written comments should:

- 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:** Comments are to be submitted to the Docket Office, Docket No. ICR-97-2, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210, telephone: (202) 219-7894. Written comments limited to 10 pages or less in length may also be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 219-5046.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bonnie Friedman, Office of Information and Consumer Affairs, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3647, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210, telephone: (202) 219-8148. Copies of the referenced information collection request are available for inspection and copying in the Docket Office and will be mailed immediately to persons who request copies by telephoning Vivian Allen at (202) 219-8076. For electronic copies, contact OSHA's WebPage on Internet at <http://www.osha.gov/>.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### I. Background

OSHA issued this standard to address the work practices to be used during the operation and maintenance of electric power generation, transmission, and distribution facilities [59 FR 4320, January 31, 1994]. This standard includes requirements relating to enclosed spaces, hazardous energy control, working near energized parts, grounding for employee protection, work on underground and overhead installations, line-clearance tree trimming, work in substations and generating plants, and other special conditions and equipment unique to the generation, transmission, and distribution of electric energy. Compliance with these requirements will prevent injuries to employees working on electric power systems.

OSHA, at the same time, revised the electrical protective equipment requirements contained in the General Industry Standards. The revision replaced the incorporation of out-of-date consensus standards with a set of performance-oriented requirements. Additionally, OSHA issued new requirements for the safe use and care of electrical protective equipment to complement the equipment design provisions. These revisions will prevent accidents caused by inadequate electrical protective equipment.

OSHA currently has approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for certain information collection requirements contained in 29 CFR 1910.269 and 1910.137. That approval will expire on March 31, 1997, unless OSHA applies for an extension of the OMB approval. This notice initiates the process for OSHA to request an extension of the current OMB approval. This notice also solicits public comment on OSHA's existing paperwork burden estimates from those interested parties and to seek public response to several questions related to the development of OSHA's estimation. Interested parties are requested to review OSHA's existing estimates, which are based upon information available during rulemaking, and to comment on their accuracy or appropriateness in today's workplace situation.

### II. Current Actions

This notice requests an extension of the current OMB approval of the paperwork requirements in 29 CFR 1910.269, Electric power generation, transmission, and distribution; and 29 CFR 1910.137, Electrical protective equipment.

*Type of Review:* Extension of currently approved collection.

*Agency:* U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

*Title:* Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution; Electrical Protective Equipment.

*OMB Number:* 1218-0190.

*Agency Number:* Docket No. ICR-97-2.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; State or local governments; Business or other for-profit; Federal Agencies or employees; Non-profit institutions; Small businesses or organizations.

*Number of respondents:* 12,074.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 0.30 hours.

*Total Estimated Cost:* \$1,002,150.

*Total Burden Hours:* 40,086.

Comments submitted in response to this notice 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: February 28, 1997.

John F. Martonik,

*Acting Director, Directorate of Safety Standards Programs.*

[FR Doc. 97-5649 Filed 3-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-M

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## NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

### Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** National Archives and Records Administration, Office of Records Services.

**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). Records schedules identify records of sufficient value to warrant preservation in the National Archives of the United States. Schedules also authorize agencies after a specified period to dispose of records lacking administrative, legal, research, or other value. Notice is published for records schedules that (1) propose the destruction of records not previously authorized for disposal, or (2) reduce the retention period for records already authorized for disposal. NARA invites

public comments on such schedules, as required by 44 USC 3303a(a).

**DATES:** Requests for copies must be received in writing on or before April 21, 1997. Once the appraisal of the records is completed, NARA will send a copy of the schedule. The requester will be given 30 days to submit comments.

**ADDRESSES:** Address requests for single copies of schedules identified in this notice to the Civilian Appraisal Staff (NWRC), National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD 20740-6001. Requesters must cite the control number assigned to each schedule when requesting a copy. The control number appears in the parentheses immediately after the name of the requesting agency.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Each year U.S. Government agencies create billions of records on paper, film, magnetic tape, and other media. In order to control this accumulation, agency records managers prepare records schedules specifying when the agency no longer needs the records and what happens to the records after this period. Some schedules are comprehensive and cover all the records of an agency or one of its major subdivisions. These comprehensive schedules provide for the eventual transfer to the National Archives of historically valuable records and authorize the disposal of all other records. Most schedules, however, cover records of only one office or program or a few series of records, and many are updates of previously approved schedules. Such schedules also may include records that are designated for permanent retention.

Destruction of records requires the approval of the Archivist of the United States. This approval is granted after a thorough study of the records that takes into account 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 historical or other value.

This public notice identifies the Federal agencies and their subdivisions requesting disposition authority, includes the control number assigned to each schedule, and briefly describes the records proposed for disposal. The records schedule contains additional information about the records and their disposition. Further information about the disposition process will be furnished to each requester.

Schedules Pending

1. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (N1-95-96-2). Routine and

facilitative records of Forest Supervisors Offices, dated 1946-1959.

2. Department of Commerce, U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration (N1-377-96-1 and 2). Textual records of the Office of the Under Secretary, the Office of Tourism Marketing, the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, and the Office of Research, and audiovisual records of marketing and publicity campaigns.

3. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service (N1-85-96-5). Agreements between transportation lines and the United States.

4. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (N1-406-97-2). Microform copies of certain motor carrier certificates.

5. National Archives and Records Administration (N1-GRS-97-1). Government-wide retention standards for alternate worksite records.

6. National Archives and Records Administration (N1-64-96-3). Comprehensive revision of Appendix 11, records maintained in the General Counsel's office.

7. National Labor Relations Board (N1-25-97-1). Agency disciplinary case files on nonemployees.

8. Panama Canal Commission (N1-185-97-8). Travel, transportation and Shipping records.

9. Tennessee Valley Authority (N1-142-97-6). Confrontational situations database.

Dated: March 3, 1997.

Michael J. Kurtz,

*Assistant Archivist for Record Services—Washington, DC.*

[FR Doc. 97-5676 Filed 3-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7515-01-P

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## NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LITERACY

### Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** National Institute for Literacy.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces an information Collection Request (ICR) by the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL). The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before May 6, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments to: National Institute for Literacy, 800 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006, Attention: Jaleh