

[FR Doc. 97-13343 Filed 5-20-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; 30 CFR 77.1101, Escape and Evacuation Plans

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 Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection related to Escape and Evacuation Plans for surface coal mines and surface work areas of underground coal mines. MSHA 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.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the employee listed in the

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this notice.

DATES: Submit comments on or before July 21, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Commenters are encouraged to send their comments on a computer disk, or via E-mail to psilvey@msha.gov, along with an original printed copy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George M. Fesak, Director, Office of Program Evaluation and Information Resources, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 715, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203-1984. Mr. Fesak can be reached at gfesak@msha.gov (Internet E-mail), (703) 235-8378 (voice), or (703) 235-1563 (facsimile).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 77.1101(a) requires operators of surface coal mines and surface work areas of underground coal mines to establish and keep current a specific escape and evacuation plan to be followed in the event of a fire.

Section 77.1101(c) requires escape and evacuation plans to include the designation and proper maintenance of an adequate means for exiting areas where persons are required to work or travel including buildings, equipment, and areas where persons normally congregate during the work shift.

Section 77.1101(b) requires that all employees be instructed in current escape and evacuation plans, fire alarm signals, and applicable procedures to be followed in case of fire. The training and record keeping requirements associated with this standard are addressed under OMB No. 1219-0070 (Certificate of Training).

While escape and evacuation plans are not subject to approval by MSHA district managers, MSHA inspectors evaluate the adequacy of the plans during their inspections of surface coal mines and surface work areas of underground coal mines.

II. Current Actions

MSHA proposes to continue the information collection requirement related to escape and evacuation plans for surface coal mines and surface work areas of underground coal mines for an additional 3 years. MSHA believes that eliminating this requirement would expose miners to unnecessary risk of injury or death should a fire occur at or near their work location.

Type of Review: Extension.
Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Title: Escape and Evacuation Plans.

Recordkeeping: Indefinite.

OMB Number: 1219-0051.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions.

Cite/Reference/Form/etc.: 30 CFR 77.1101.

Total Respondents: 401.

Frequency: On occasion.

Total Responses: 401.

Average Time per Response: 4.8 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 1,930 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Cost: \$0.

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: May 14, 1997.

George M. Fesak,

Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources.

[FR Doc. 97-13356 Filed 5-20-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

98th Official Meeting of the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefits Plans; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 512 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C. 1142, a public meeting will be held June 13, 1997 of the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans.

The 98th session of the full ERISA Advisory Council will take place in Room N-5437 A&B, U.S. Department of Labor Building, Second and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. The purpose of the open meeting, which will run from 1:00 p.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m., is to inform the full ERISA Advisory Council of the progress the Council's three working groups are making on the topics they are studying this year. Members also will be given an update of activities in the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

Members of the public are encouraged to file a written statement pertaining to any topic concerning ERISA by submitting 20 copies on or before June 6, 1997, to Sharon Morrissey, Executive

Secretary, ERISA Advisory Council, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-5677, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. Individuals or representatives of organizations wishing to address the Working Group on Soft Dollar Arrangements and Commission Recapture should forward their request to the Executive Secretary or telephone (202) 219-8753. Oral presentations will be limited to 10 minutes, but an extended statement may be submitted for the record. Individuals with disabilities, who need special accommodations, should contact Sharon Morrissey by June 6, at the address indicated in this notice.

Organizations or individuals may also submit statements for the record without testifying. Twenty (20) copies of such statements should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the Advisory Council at the above address. Papers will be accepted and included in the record of the meeting if received on or before June 6.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 16th day of May, 1997.

Olena Berg,

Assistant Secretary, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-13338 Filed 5-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-29-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

Working Group Studying Soft Dollar Arrangements and Commission Recapture; Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefits Plans; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 512 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C. 1142, a public meeting will be held June 13 of the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans Working Group formed to study Soft Dollar Arrangements and Commission Recapture.

The session will take place in Room N-5437 A&B, U.S. Department of Labor Building, Second and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. The purpose of the open meeting, which will run from 9:30 a.m. to approximately noon, is for Working Group members to continue taking testimony on the topics of industry soft dollar and directed brokerage practices.

Members of the public are encouraged to file a written statement pertaining to any topic concerning ERISA by submitting 20 copies on or before June

6, 1997, to Sharon Morrissey, Executive Secretary, ERISA Advisory Council, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-5677, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. Individuals or representatives of organizations wishing to address the Working Group on Soft Dollar Arrangements and Commission Recapture should forward their request to the Executive Secretary or telephone (202) 219-8753. Oral presentations will be limited to 10 minutes, but an extended statement may be submitted for the record. Individuals with disabilities, who need special accommodations, should contact Sharon Morrissey by June 6, at the address indicated in this notice.

Organizations or individuals may also submit statements for the record without testifying. Twenty (20) copies of such statements should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the Advisory Council at the above address. Papers will be accepted and included in the record of the meeting if received on or before June 6.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 16th day of May, 1997.

Olena Berg,

Assistant Secretary, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-13339 Filed 5-20-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

Working Group Studying Employer Assets In ERISA Employer-Sponsored Plans, Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefits Plans; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 512 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1994 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C. 1142, a public meeting will be held on June 12, 1997 of the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans Working Group studying Employer Assets in ERISA Employer-Sponsored Plans.

The purpose of the open meeting, which will run from 1:00 p.m. until approximately 3:30 p.m. in Room N-5437 A&B, U.S. Department of Labor Building, Second and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210, is for Working Group members to continue taking testimony on the topic of employer assets in ERISA employer-sponsored plans. The group will be especially interested in seeking testimony from the plan sponsor community.

Members of the public are encouraged to file a written statement pertaining to any topic concerning ERISA by submitting 20 copies on or before June 6, 1997, to Sharon Morrissey, Executive Secretary, ERISA Advisory Council, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-5677, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. Individuals or representatives of organizations wishing to address the Working Group on Employer Assets in ERISA Employer-Sponsored Plans should forward their request to the Executive Secretary or telephone (202) 219-8753. Oral presentations will be limited to 10 minutes, but an extended statement may be submitted for the record. Individuals with disabilities, who need special accommodations, should contact Sharon Morrissey by June 6, 1997, at the address indicated in this notice. Organizations or individuals may also submit statements for the record without testifying. Twenty (20) copies of such statements should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the Advisory Council at the above address. Papers will be accepted and included in the record of the meeting if received on or before June 6.

Signed at Washington, DC this 16th day of May, 1997.

Olena Berg,

Assistant Secretary, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-13340 Filed 5-20-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

Working Group on Studying the Merits of Defined Contribution vs. Defined Benefit Plans, Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefits Plans; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 512 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C. 1142, the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans Working Group established to Study the Merits of Defined Contribution vs. Defined Benefit Plans With an Emphasis on Small Business Concerns will hold a public meeting on June 12, 1997 in Room N-5437 A&B, U.S. Department of Labor Building, Second and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210.

The purpose of the open meeting, which will run from 9:30 a.m. to approximately noon, is for Working