

mine owner and operator legal identity and notification of commencement of operations and closing of mines provide information to help ensure the health and safety of mine workers by identifying responsibility for mining operations.

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration.

*Type of Review:* Extension without change of currently approved collection.

*Title:* Record of Results of Examinations of Self-Rescuers (Underground Coal Mines).

*OMB Number:* 1219-0044.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 719.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 124,375.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector: Business or other for-profit (Mines).

*Description:* Title 30 CFR 75.1714-3(b), (c), (d), and (e) require that self-rescuers be examined regularly at intervals not to exceed 90 days by a qualified person who certifies by date and signature that the tests were conducted. A record must be made when a self-rescue device is removed from service and when corrective action is taken as a result of the examination. The records are used as an enforcement tool to insure that the devices have been examined and are maintained in operable and usable condition.

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration.

*Type of Review:* Extension without change of currently approved collection.

*Title:* Escape and Evaluation Plans 30 CFR 57.11053.

*OMB Number:* 1219-0046.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 242.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 4,114.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector: Business or other for-profit (Mines)

*Description:* Title 30 CFR 57.11053 requires the development of an escape and evacuation plan specifically addressing the unique conditions of each underground metal and nonmetal mine. Section 57.11053 also requires that revisions be made as mining progresses. The plan must be available to the inspector and conspicuously posted at locations convenient to all persons on the surface and underground. The mine operator and representatives of the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) are required to jointly review the plan at least once every six months. The information is prepared by the mine

operator for use by miners, MSHA, and persons involved in rescue operations. The information allows miners and rescue personnel to be aware of the emergency escape route for a particular working place.

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration.

*Type of Review:* New collection of information.

*Title:* Qualification/Certification Program Request for MSHA Individual Identification Number (MIIN).

*OMB Number:* 1219-0NEW.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 40,000.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 3,332.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost Burden:* \$11,439.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector: Business or other for-profit (Mines).

*Description:* MSHA issues certifications, qualifications and approvals (licenses) to the nation's miners to conduct specific mine-related work. In an effort to reduce the use of Social Security Numbers as identifiers, MSHA will issue Individual Identification Numbers, or MIIN, where identification is required by MSHA for miners.

**Darrin A. King,**

*Acting Departmental Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. E7-19575 Filed 10-3-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-43-P**

## 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 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. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension 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 of this notice on or before December 3, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Amy A. Hobby, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 4080, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20212, telephone number 202-691-7628 (this is not a toll free number).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amy A. Hobby, BLS Clearance Officer, telephone number 202-691-7628. (See **ADDRESSES** section.)

#### 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 that "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), the 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 in those compiled by regulatory, vital statistics, and workers' compensation systems. Estimates prior to CFOI varied widely, ranging from 3,000 to 10,000 fatal work injuries annually. In addition, information needed to develop prevention strategies were often missing from these earlier programs.

In the late 1980s, the National Academy of Sciences study, *Counting Injuries and Illnesses in the Workplace*, and another report, *Keystone National Policy Dialogue on Work-Related Illness and Injury Recordkeeping*, emphasized the need for the 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.

The 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 have been compiled and published for 1992–2006, 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; and
  - Conduct research for developing prevention strategies.

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 Action**

Office of Management and Budget clearance is being sought for the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

In 2006, 5,703 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.

During 2006, the BLS Washington staff responded to almost 1,400 requests for CFOI data from various organizations. (This figure excludes requests received by the States for State-specific data.) In addition, the CFOI page of the BLS Web site averaged about 5,000 users per month in 2006.

Washington staff also 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 15 organizations. Study topics include fatalities by worker demographic category (young workers, older workers, Hispanic workers); by occupation or industry (construction workers, police officers, landscaping workers, workers in oil and gas extraction); by event (heat-related fatalities, fatalities from workplace violence, suicides, falls from ladders); or other research such as safety and health program effectiveness and the impact of fatality risk on wages. (A current list of research articles and reports that include CFOI data can be found in the BLS Report 2587, dated September 2007, Appendix I. Copies of this report are available upon request.)

**III. Desired Focus of Comments**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is particularly interested in comments that:

- 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.

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

*Agency:* Bureau of Labor Statistics.

*Title:* Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

*OMB Number:* 1220–0133.

*Affected Public:* Federal government; Individuals or households; Private sector (Business or other for-profits, Not-for-profit institutions, Farms); State, local or tribal governments.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

Form	Total respondents	Total responses	Average time per response (minutes)	Estimated total burden (hours)
BLS CFOI–1 .....	1,720	1,720	20	574
Source Document Letter .....	229	22,000	8.7	3,190
Totals .....	1,949	23,720	.....	3,764

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$0.

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance):* \$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 also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 28th day of September, 2007.

**Cathy Kazanowski,**

*Chief, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510–24–P**

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

**Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978**

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation of 1978, Public Law 95–541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nadene G. Kennedy, Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On August 31, 2007, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the