

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 collection: Notice of Termination, Suspension, Reduction or Increase in Benefit Payments (CM-908). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addresses section of this Notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before April 15, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Ms. Hazel M. Bell, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S-3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-0418, fax (202) 693-1451, Email hbell@fenix2.dol-esa.gov. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background**

The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 as amended (30 U.S.C. 942). The Act implementing regulations at 20 CFR 725.621 necessitate this information collection. Under the Act, responsible coal mine operators or their representatives must provide benefit payments to eligible coal miners and dependents of coal miners who have contracted pneumoconiosis. Responsible operators who pay benefits are required to report any changes in the benefit amount, and the reasons for the change, to the Department of Labor. This information collection is currently

approved for use through August 31, 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 approval for the extension of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to ensure that Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation regulations are followed and that the new benefit amount is accurate and timely.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Title: Notice of Termination, Suspension, Reduction or Increase in Benefit Payments.

OMB Number: 1215-0064.

Agency Number: CM-908.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Total Respondents: 325.

Total Responses: 9,000.

Time per Response: 12 minutes.

Frequency: On Occasion (Reporting).

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 1,800.

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

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$3,600.

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 10, 2003.

Bruce Bohanon,

Chief, Branch of Management Review and Internal Control, Division of Financial Management, Office of Management, Administration and Planning, Employment Standards Administration.

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BILLING CODE 4510-CK-P

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 supersedeas 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, which ever 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.

Modification to General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of the decisions listed to 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

Massachusetts

MA020001 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MA020002 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MA020003 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MA020013 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MA020018 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MA020020 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MA020021 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Rhode Island

RI020001 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Volume II

Delaware

DE020001 (Mar. 1, 2002)
DE020005 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Maryland

MD020001 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020009 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020021 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020034 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020036 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020037 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020042 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020048 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020056 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020057 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MD020058 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Virginia

VA020022 (Mar. 1, 2002)
VA020050 (Mar. 1, 2002)
VA020051 (Mar. 1, 2002)
VA020052 (Mar. 1, 2002)
VA020069 (Mar. 1, 2002)
VA020078 (Mar. 1, 2002)
VA020079 (Mar. 1, 2002)
VA020092 (Mar. 1, 2002)
VA020099 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Volume III

Kentucky

KY020004 (Mar. 1, 2002)
KY020027 (Mar. 1, 2002)
KY020029 (Mar. 1, 2002)
KY020035 (Mar. 1, 2002)

South Carolina

SC020036 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Volume IV

Illinois

IL020001 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IL020015 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IL020026 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IL020049 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Indiana

IN020001 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IN020002 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IN020003 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IN020006 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Ohio

OH020002 (Mar. 1, 2002)
OH020023 (Mar. 1, 2002)
OH020028 (Mar. 1, 2002)
OH020029 (Mar. 1, 2002)
OH020037 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Volume V

Iowa

IA020002 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IA020004 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IA020010 (Mar. 1, 2002)
IA020031 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Missouri

MO020001 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020002 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020003 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020006 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020009 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020010 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020011 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020044 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020048 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020049 (Mar. 1, 2002)
MO020050 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Volume VI

Colorado

CO020013 (Mar. 1, 2002)
CO020014 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Oregon

OR020001 (Mar. 1, 2002)

Volume VII

California

CA020023 (Mar. 1, 2002)
CA020030 (Mar. 1, 2002)

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.

General wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts are available electronically at no cost on the Government Printing Office site at <http://www.access.gpo.gov/davisbacon>. They are also available electronically by subscription to the Davis-Bacon Online Service (<http://davisbacon.fedworld.gov>) of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) of the U.S. Department of Commerce at 1-800-363-2068. This subscription offers value-added features such as electronic delivery of modified wage decisions directly to the user's desktop, the ability to access prior wage decisions issued during the year, extensive Help desk Support, etc.

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 six 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 will be distributed to subscribers.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 6th day of February 2003.

Carl J. Poleskey,

Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

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