

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) if the information will be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (4) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (5) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Nora Hernandez by telephone at 202–693–8633, or by email at [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title 30 CFR 75.1716, 75.1716–1 and 75.1716–3 require operators of underground coal mines to provide MSHA notification before mining under bodies of water and to obtain a permit to mine under a body of water if, in the judgment of the Secretary, it is sufficiently large to constitute a hazard to miners. The regulation is necessary to prevent the inundation of underground coal mines with water that cause hazards to miners, including the potential for drowning. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the **Federal Register** on August 19, 2022 (87 FR 51150).

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOL notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

*Agency:* DOL–MSHA.

*Title of Collection:* Operations Mining Under a Body of Water.

*OMB Control Number:* 1219–0020.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profits institutions.

*Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 50.

*Total Estimated Number of Responses:* 50.

*Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:* 275 hours.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$680.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D))

**Nora Hernandez,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510–43–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Application for a Permit To Fire More Than 20 Boreholes and for the Use of Nonpermissible Blasting Units, Explosives, and Shot-Firing Units; Posting Notices of Misfires

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting this Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)-sponsored information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Public comments on the ICR are invited.

**DATES:** The OMB will consider all written comments that the agency receives on or before December 28, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

*Comments are invited on:* (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) if the information will be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (4) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (5) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who

are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Nora Hernandez by telephone at 202–693–8633, or by email at [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under section 313 of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), 30 U.S.C. 873, any explosives used in underground coal mines must be permissible. The Mine Act also provides that, under safeguards prescribed by the Secretary, the firing of more than 20 shots and the use of nonpermissible explosives in sinking shafts and slopes from the surface in rock may be permitted. 30 CFR 75.1321 outlines the procedures by which a permit may be issued for the firing of more than 20 boreholes and for the use of nonpermissible shot-firing units in underground coal mines. At surface coal mines and surface work areas of underground coal mines, 30 CFR 77.1909–1 outlines the procedures by which a coal mine operator may apply for a permit to use non-permissible explosives and shot-firing units in the blasting of rock during the development of shafts or slopes. Additionally, in the event of a misfire of explosives, 30 CFR 75.1327 requires that a qualified person post a warning to prohibit entry at each accessible entrance to the affected area. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the **Federal Register** on August 19, 2022 (87 FR 51149).

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOL notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

*Agency:* DOL–MSHA.

*Title of Collection:* Application for a Permit to Fire More than 20 Boreholes and for the Use of Nonpermissible

Blasting Units, Explosives, and Shot-firing Units; Posting Notices of Misfires.

*OMB Control Number:* 1219-0025.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profits institutions.

*Total Estimated Number of*

*Respondents:* 41.

*Total Estimated Number of*

*Responses:* 42.

*Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:* 41 hours.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$150.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D).)

**Nora Hernandez,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2022-25875 Filed 11-25-22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-43-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Mine Safety and Health Administration

#### Petition for Modification of Application of Existing Mandatory Safety Standards

**AGENCY:** Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is a summary of a petition for modification submitted to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) by the party listed below.

**DATES:** All comments on the petition must be received by MSHA's Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances on or before December 28, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by Docket No. MSHA-2022-0066 by any of the following methods:

1. *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments for MSHA-2022-0066.

2. *Fax:* 202-693-9441.

3. *Email:* [petitioncomments@dol.gov](mailto:petitioncomments@dol.gov).

4. *Regular Mail or Hand Delivery:* MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 201 12th Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, Virginia 22202-5452.

*Attention:* S. Aromie Noe, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances. Persons delivering documents are required to check in at the receptionist's desk in Suite 4E401. Individuals may inspect copies of the petition and comments during normal business hours at the address listed above. Before visiting MSHA in person, call 202-693-9455 to make an appointment, in keeping with the Department of Labor's COVID-19 policy. Special health precautions may be required.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** S. Aromie Noe, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances at 202-693-9440 (voice), [Petitionsformodification@dol.gov](mailto:Petitionsformodification@dol.gov) (email), or 202-693-9441 (fax). [These are not toll-free numbers.]

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 and Title 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 44 govern the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for modification.

#### I. Background

Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act) allows the mine operator or representative of miners to file a petition to modify the application of any mandatory safety standard to a coal or other mine if the Secretary of Labor determines that:

1. An alternative method of achieving the result of such standard exists which will at all times guarantee no less than the same measure of protection afforded the miners of such mine by such standard; or

2. The application of such standard to such mine will result in a diminution of safety to the miners in such mine.

In addition, sections 44.10 and 44.11 of 30 CFR establish the requirements for filing petitions for modification.

#### II. Petition for Modification

*Docket Number:* M-2022-030-C

*Petitioner:* Ramaco Resources, LCC, PO Box 219, Verner, West Virginia, 25650.

*Mine:* Mine No. 1, MSHA ID No. 44-07369, located in Tazewell County, Virginia.

*Regulation Affected:* 30 CFR 75.507-1(a), Electric equipment other than power-connection points; outby the last open crosscut; return air; permissibility requirements.

*Modification Request:* The petitioner requests a modification of 30 CFR 75.507-1(a) to permit the use of battery-powered nonpermissible surveying equipment, including, but not limited to, portable battery operated mine transits, total station surveying equipment, distance meters, and data loggers outby the last open crosscut.

The petitioner states that:

(a) To comply with requirements of 30 CFR 75.372 and 30 CFR 75.1200 use of the most practical and accurate surveying equipment is necessary.

(b) Accurate surveying is critical to the safety of the miners.

(c) Underground mining by its nature, size and complexity of mine plans requires that accurate and precise

measurements be completed in a prompt and efficient manner.

The petitioner proposes the following alternative method:

(a) Using the following total station and theodolite and similar low voltage battery-operated total stations and theodolites with an ingress protection (IP) rating of 66 or greater in or inby the last open crosscut subject to the conditions of the Decision and Order:

(1) Sokkia—CX-105LN

(b) The equipment allowed under the Decision and Order is low voltage or battery-powered non-permissible total stations and theodolites with an IP rating of 66 or greater.

(c) The operator shall maintain a logbook for electronic surveying equipment with the equipment, in the location where mine record books are kept, or in the location where the surveying record books are kept. The logbook will contain the date of manufacture and/or purchase of each piece of electronic surveying equipment. The logbook shall be made available to MSHA upon request.

(d) All non-permissible electronic surveying equipment to be used in the return air outby the last open crosscut shall be examined by the person to operate the equipment prior to taking the equipment underground to ensure the equipment is maintained in a safe operating condition.

These examinations shall include:

(1) Checking the instrument for any physical damage and the integrity of the case;

(2) Removing the battery and inspecting for corrosion;

(3) Inspecting the contact points to ensure a secure connection to the battery;

(4) Reinserting the battery and powering up and shutting down to ensure proper connections; and

(5) Checking the battery compartment cover or battery attachment to ensure that it is securely fastened.

The results of this examination shall be recorded in the logbook.

(e) The equipment shall be examined at least weekly by a qualified person as defined in 30 CFR 75.153; the examination results shall be recorded weekly in the equipment's logbook. Examination entries in the logbook may be expunged after 1 year.

(f) The operator shall ensure that all non-permissible electronic surveying equipment is serviced according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Dates of service shall be recorded in the equipment's logbook and shall include a description of the work performed.

(g) The non-permissible surveying equipment that will be used in the