

Labor. To obtain documentation, contact Darrin King on (202) 693-4129 or E-mail: King-Darrin@dol.gov.

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for MSHA, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 ((202) 395-7316), within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB 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 submission of responses.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA).

Title: Independent Contractor Register.

OMB Number: 1219-0040.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Frequency: On occasion.

Type of Response: Recordkeeping.

Number of Respondents: 15,292.

Number of Annual Responses: 99,398.

Average Response Time: 8 minutes.

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 13,250.

Total Annualized Capital/Startup Costs: \$0.

Total Annual Costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$174,789.

Description: 30 CFR 45.4(a) requires that each independent contractor provide the production-operator in writing the trade name, business address, and telephone number; a description and location at the mine where the work is to be performed; MSHA identification number, if any; and the contractor's business address of record. 30 CFR 45.4(b) requires each production-operator to maintain in writing the information required by

paragraph (a) at the mine and to make this information available to any authorized representative of the Secretary upon request.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Agency: Training Plans, New Miner Training, Newly-Hired Experienced Miner Training.

OMB Number: 1219-0131.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Frequency: On occasion and annually.

Type of Response: Recordkeeping; reporting; and third party disclosure.

Number of Respondents: 10,305.

Number of Annual Responses: 167,340.

Average Response Time: Varies considerably by task and mine size; however, the total average time for all mines is approximately 1.6 hours per response.

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 263,274.

Total Annualized Capital/Startup Costs: \$0.

Total Annual Costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$520,683.

Description: Paragraph 9a) of § 46.3 requires mine operators to develop and implement a written training plan approved by MSHA that contains effective programs for training new miners and experienced miners, training miners for new tasks, annual refresher training, and hazard training.

Paragraph (b) requires the following information, at a minimum, to be included in a training plan:

- (1) The company name, mine name, and MSHA mine identification number;
- (2) The name and position of the person designated by the operator who is responsible for the health and safety training at the mine. This person may be the operator;
- (3) A general description of the teaching methods and the course materials that are to be used in providing the training, including the subject areas to be covered and the approximate time to be spent on each subject area;
- (4) A list of the persons who will provide the training, and the subject areas in which each person is competent to instruct; and
- (5) The evaluation procedures used to determine the effectiveness of training.

Paragraph (c) requires a plan that does not include the minimum information specified in paragraph (b) to be approved by MSHA. For each size category, the Agency estimates that 20 percent of mine operators will choose to write a plan and send it to MSHA for approval.

Paragraph (d) requires mine operators to provide miners' representatives with

a copy of the training plan. At mines where no miners' representatives has been designated, a copy of the plan must be posted at the mine or a copy must be provided to each miner.

Paragraph (e) provides that within 2 weeks following receipt or posting of the training plan, miners or their representatives may submit written comments on the plan to mine operators, or to the Regional Manager, as appropriate. The burden hours and costs of this provision are not borne by mine operators, but by miners and their representatives.

Paragraph (g) requires that the miners' representative with a copy of the approved plan within one week after approval. At mines where no miners' representatives has been designated, a copy of the plan must be posted at the mine or a copy must be provided to each miner.

Paragraph (h) allows mine operators, miners, and miners' representatives to appeal a decision of the Regional Manager in writing to the Director for Education Policy and Development. The Director would issue a decision on the appeal within 30 days after receipt of the appeal.

Paragraph (i) requires mine operators to make available at the mine site a copy of the current training plan for inspection by MSHA and for examination of miners and their representatives. If the training plan is not maintained at the mine site, mine operators must have the capability to provide the plan upon request by MSHA, miners, or their representatives.

Paragraph (a) of § 46.5 requires mine operators to provide each new miner with no less than 24 hours of training. Miners who have not received the full 24 hours of new miner training must work where an experienced miner can observe that the new miner is working in a safe manner.

Paragraph (a) of § 46.6 requires mine operators to provide each newly hired experienced miner with certain training before the miner begins work.

Paragraph (a) of § 46.7 requires, before a miner performs a task for which he or she has no experience, that the mine operator training the miner in the safety and health aspects and safe work procedures specific to that task. If changes have occurred in a miner's regularly assigned task, the mine operator must provide that miner with training that addresses the changes.

Paragraph (a) of § 46.8 requires, at least every 12 months, that the miner operator provide each miner with no less than 8 hours of refresher training.

Paragraph (a) of § 46.9 requires the mine operators upon completion of each