

the determination of indebtednesses, and second, relief because of undue financial hardship.

Annual burden was estimated based on a review of debtor responses to similar requests for information. Debtors typically respond in 1–2 page letters, supplemented by copies of documents. Letters are most often typewritten. Annual burden is based on a 1¾ hour time allotment to prepare and type a letter. Debtors will not be asked to respond on a form.

X. *Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 12,250.

XI. *Estimated Total Burden Cost:* Estimated annual cost to the Federal Government: \$969,080.

Estimated annual cost to the respondents: \$293,370.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request 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 part of public record.

Dated: September 15, 2003.

H. Greg James,

*Associate Deputy Chief Financial Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03–24078 Filed 9–18–03; 12:01 pm]

BILLING CODE 4510–23–M

## 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 Issuance of Insurance Policy (CM–921). 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 November 21, 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 [bell.hazel@dol.gov](mailto:bell.hazel@dol.gov). Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Section 423 of the Black Lung Benefits Act, as amended, specifies that a responsible coal mine operator must be insured for payment of black lung benefits and outlines the items each contract of insurance must contain. It enumerates the civil penalties to which a responsible coal mine operator is subject, should these procedures not be followed. Further, 20 CFR Ch. VI, Subpart C, § 726.208–213 requires that each insurance carrier report to the Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (DCMWC) each policy and endorsement issued, cancelled, or reviewed with respect to responsible operators, on such a form as DCMWC may require. The CM–921 is the form completed by the insurance carrier and forwarded to DCMWC for review. This information collection is currently approved for use through March 31, 2004.

##### 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 identify operators who have secured insurance for payment of black lung benefits as required by the Act.

*Type of Review:* Extension

*Agency:* Employment Standards Administration

*Title:* Notice of Issuance of Insurance Policy.

*OMB Number:* 1215–0059

*Agency Number:* CM–921

*Affected Public:* Business or other for profit and State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Total Respondents:* 60

*Total Responses:* 4,000

*Time per Response:* 10 minutes

*Frequency:* Annually

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 667

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

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance):* \$1,800.00

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: September 16, 2003.

Bruce Bohanon,

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

[FR Doc. 03–24051 Filed 9–18–03; 12:01 pm]

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### Employment Standards Administration

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