

Exploring the OSH Needs of Small Construction Business

Supporting Statement B

Request for Office of Management and Budget Review and Approval
for Federally Sponsored Data Collection

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B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

The respondent universe consists of the owners of the 3,532 construction establishments with 10 or fewer employees in the in the Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN Metropolitan Statistical Area. The 3,532 construction establishments include any businesses with 10 or fewer employees with a NAICS code of 23 at the two-digit level. particular attention will be given to how recruiting efforts will ensure that a broad range of sub-sectors within construction are represented in the sample. For example, no more than 3 respondents will be recruited from a specific subsector or 4-5 digit NAICS code. Subsectors from which participants may be recruited include but are not limited to: Foundation, structure, and building exterior contractors, Poured concrete foundation and structure contractors, Structural steel and precast concrete contractors, Framing contractors, Masonry contractors, Roofing contractors, and Siding contractors. For purposes of reaching population response saturation, this interview will be administered to a sample of approximately 30 owners of construction businesses with 10 or fewer employees from the Greater Cincinnati area. The sample sizes are not based upon power analyses comparing expected group differences. Rather, the sample size is based upon recommendations related to qualitative interview methods, on the basis of the number of respondents needed to acquire no new response themes. The experience of the research team in working with construction populations has shown that qualitative interview methods typically yield response saturation at the accumulation of approximately 25 respondents. Thus, the sample size of 30 is more than sufficient to allow for exhausting response themes. Response saturation will be assessed by continuous data analysis rather than waiting until the end of data collection as is typically with quantitative research methods. In the case that response saturation has not occurred following the completion

of 30 interviews, the recruitment contract includes a provision to recruit up to an additional 10 participants if necessary. Participants for this data collection will be recruited with the assistance of contractors who have successfully performed similar tasks for NIOSH in the past. Based upon previous data collection efforts by the research team, it is estimated approximately 90% of those contacted for recruitment will be enrolled in the study.

Data Collection Table

Number of construction establishments with 10 or fewer employees	Sample
3,532	30 participants

2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

Participants for this data collection will be recruited with the assistance of contractors who have successfully performed similar tasks for NIOSH in the past. Small construction business owners will be recruited from lists of business owners purchased for the contractors’ use. This study will use convenience sampling. Participants will be provided with information about the purpose of the interview. They will also be told that whatever information they share will be secure and that their names will be secured (see Attachments C and D). In addition, they will be informed that they will be offered remuneration as a token of appreciation for their time. Any contractor(s) used for recruitment will be registered with the Federalwide Assurance (FWA) and the Request to Allow an Outside Institution to rely on NIOSH HSRB will be filed. The interview questionnaire will be administered verbally to participants in English. Interviews will be conducted by NIOSH researchers in settings familiar to the participants such as their local job site or office location. It is worth noting that although efforts will be made to schedule interviews at or near the participants’ work location, it is possible that some

participants will prefer to travel to a location other than their work location, and thus may be burdened with additional travel time. The data collection will not use electronic respondent reporting as attempting to collect the data using a computer would only increase the response time and add an additional level of discomfort for the majority of the respondents. The interviewer will read the items to the respondents and record their answers. Finally, it has been the experience of the researchers that survey administrators are much more successful if they go out into the community to collect data rather than having respondents come to them.

Paper copies of the interviews will be kept by the NIOSH research team in a locked cabinet in offices with locked doors. The responses will also be entered into a computer program which will be kept on a password protected computer and/or on CD's that will be stored in locked cabinet in offices with locked doors. Only the investigators will have access to the data.

Items of information to be Collected – The data will be responses to a self-report interview questionnaire concerning occupational safety and health issues such as primary hazards of concern, current occupational safety and health activities, perceived benefits and barriers to occupational safety and health activities, and preferred sources of information (see Attachment E). No individually identifiable information is being collected.

3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates and Deal with Nonresponse

The contractor representatives who will be conducting the recruiting and scheduling of participants will be trained by NIOSH researchers regarding the purpose of the overall study and this data collection. It is expected that this training will assist them in responding to any concerns

expressed by prospective participants as well as clarifying item meanings for participants completing the questionnaire. Based on previous experience of the research team it is anticipated approximately 90% of the individuals approached will agree to participate in this study, and of those that agree to participate, virtually all will complete the entire interview. No follow up is required to this data collection, so no special efforts are needed to insure tracking and future participation of participants.

4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken

The questionnaire used by this study has been rigorously reviewed with small representative samples of the proposed target audience. These reviews insured the items were understood as intended by the researchers, that no unnecessarily redundant items were retained, and that the interview could be administered within a 90 minute period. The items themselves were derived from insights provided by subject matter experts and review of the literature.

5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

The following individuals have been consulted regarding statistical aspects, data collection, and/or data analysis:

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