

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Standard on Asbestos in Construction

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On March 30, 2012, the Department of Labor (DOL) will submit the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) sponsored information collection request (ICR) titled, "Standard on Asbestos in Construction" to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval for continued use, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 1, 2012.

ADDRESSES: A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation; including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained from the RegInfo.gov Web site,

<http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>, on March 31, 2012 or by contacting Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or sending an email to DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

Submit comments about this request to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for DOL-OSHA, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, Telephone: 202-395-6929/Fax: 202-395-6881 (these are not toll-free numbers), email: OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Contact Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or by email at DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collection requirements of the Standard on Asbestos in Construction require employers to train workers about hazards to asbestos, to monitor worker exposure, to provide medical surveillance, and maintain accurate records of worker exposure to asbestos. These records will be used by employers, workers and the Government to ensure that workers are not harmed by exposure to asbestos in the workplace. Years of exposure to asbestos can cause numerous disabling or fatal diseases, including asbestosis, a disease in which lung scarring (fibrosis) impairs breathing and causes death from respiratory or heart failure; lung cancer; mesothelioma, a cancerous tumor that spreads rapidly in the cells of membranes covering the lungs and body organs; and gastrointestinal cancer. The standard protects workers from adverse health effects from occupational exposure to asbestos.

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 it is approved by the OMB under the PRA 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 if the collection of information does not display a valid OMB Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6. The DOL obtains OMB approval for this information collection under OMB Control Number 1218-0134. The current OMB approval is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2012; however, it should be noted that existing information collection requirements submitted to the OMB receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

For additional information, see the related notice published in the Federal Register on January 25, 2012 (77 FR 3798).

Interested parties are encouraged to send comments to the OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the address shown in the ADDRESSES section within 30 days of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should reference OMB Control Number 1218-0134. The OMB is particularly interested in comments that:

- 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.

Agency: DOL-OSHA.

Title of Collection: Asbestos in Construction Standard.

OMB Control Number: 1218-0134.

Affected Public: Private Sector--Business or Other For-Profits; Federal Government;
State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 249,534.

Total Estimated Number of Responses: 48,469,358.

Total Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 4,929,794.

Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: \$28,816,390.

Dated: March 23, 2012.

Michel Smyth,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

BILLING CODE: 4510-26-P