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| • Title: | The Vinyl Chloride Standard; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements |
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[Federal Register Volume 79, Number 233 (Thursday, December 4, 2014)]

[Notices]

[Pages 72031-72033]

From the Federal Register Online via the Government Printing Office [[www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov/)]

[FR Doc No: 2014-28500]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA-2011-0196]

The Vinyl Chloride Standard; Extension of the Office of

Management and Budget's (OMB) Approval of Information Collection

(Paperwork) Requirements

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

-----------------------------------------------------------------------

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits public comments concerning its proposal to

extend OMB approval of the information collection requirements

specified in the Vinyl Chloride Standard (29 CFR 1910.1017).

DATES: Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by

February 2, 2015.

ADDRESSES:

 Electronically: You may submit comments and attachments

electronically at [http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/), which is the Federal

eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting

comments.

 Facsimile: If your comments, including attachments, are not longer

than 10 pages you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-

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When using this method, you must submit a copy of your comments and

attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA-2011-0196, U.S.

Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration,

Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210.

Deliveries (hand, express mail, messenger, and courier service) are

accepted during the Department of Labor's and Docket Office's normal

business hours, 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., e.t.

 Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and the

OSHA docket number (OSHA-2011-0196) for the Information Collection

Request (ICR). All comments, including any personal information you

provide, are placed in the public docket without change, and may be

made available online at [http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/). For further

information on submitting comments see the "Public Participation"

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theda Kenney or Todd Owen, Directorate

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200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

 The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce

paperwork and respondent (i.e., employer) burden, conducts a

preclearance consultation program to provide the public with an

opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information

collection requirements in accord with the Paperwork Reduction Act of

1995 (PRA-95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that

information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs)

is minimal, collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA's

estimate of the information collection burden is accurate. The

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Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the OSH Act) (29 U.S.C. 651

et seq.) authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or

appropriate for enforcement of the Act or for developing information

regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries,

illnesses, and accidents (29 U.S.C. 657). The OSH Act also requires

that OSHA obtain such information with minimum burden upon employers,

especially those operating small businesses, and to reduce to the

maximum extent feasible unnecessary duplication of efforts in obtaining

information (29 U.S.C. 657).

 The Standard specifies a number of paperwork requirements. The

following is a brief description of the collection of information

requirements contained in the Vinyl Chloride (VC) Standard.

(A) Exposure Monitoring (Sec. 1910.1017(d) and (Sec. 1910.1017(n))

 Paragraph 1910.1017(d)(2) requires employers to conduct exposure

monitoring at least quarterly if the results show that worker exposures

are above the permissible exposure limit (PEL), while those exposed at

or above the Action Level (AL) must be monitored no less than

semiannually. Paragraph (d)(3) requires that employers perform

additional monitoring whenever there has been a change in VC

production, process or control that may result in an increase in the

release of VC.

 Paragraph 1910.1017(n) requires employers to inform each worker of

their exposure monitoring results within 15 working days after

receiving these results. Employers may notify workers either

individually in writing or by posting the monitoring results in an

appropriate location that is accessible to the workers. In addition, if

the exposure monitoring results show that a worker's exposure exceeds

the PEL, the employer must inform the exposed worker of the corrective

action the employer is taking to prevent such overexposure.

(B) Written Compliance Plan (Sec. Sec. 1910.1017(f)(2) and (f)(3))

 Paragraph (f)(2) requires employers whose engineering and work

practice controls cannot sufficiently reduce worker VC exposures to a

level at or below the PEL to develop and implement a plan for doing so.

Paragraph (f)(3) requires employers to develop this written plan and

provide it upon request to OSHA for examination and copying. These

plans must be updated annually.

(C) Respirator Program (Sec. 1910.1017(g)(2))

 When respirators are required, the employer must establish a

respiratory protection program in accord with 1910.134, paragraphs (b)

through (d) (except (d)(1)(iii) and (d)(3)(iii)(B)(1) and (2)) and (f)

through (m). Paragraph 1910.134(c) requires the employer to develop and

implement a written respiratory protection program with worksite-

specific procedures and elements for required respirator use. The

purpose of these requirements is to ensure that employers establish a

standardized procedure for selecting, using, and maintaining

respirators for each workplace where respirators will be used.

Developing written procedures ensures that employers develop a

respirator program that meets the needs of their workers.

(D) Emergency Plan (Sec. 1910.1017(i))

 Employers must develop a written operational plan for dealing with

emergencies; the plan must address the storage, handling, and use of VC

as a liquid or compressed gas. In the event of an emergency,

appropriate elements of the plan must be implemented. Emergency plans

must maximize workers' personal protection and minimize the hazards of

an emergency.

(E) Medical Surveillance (Sec. 1910.1017(k))

 Paragraph (k) requires employers to develop a medical surveillance

program for workers exposed to VC in excess of the action level.

Examinations must be provided in accord with this paragraph at least

annually. Employers must also obtain, and provide to each worker, a

copy of a physician's statement regarding the worker's suitability for

continued exposure to VC, including use of protective equipment and

respirators, if appropriate.

(F) Communication of VC Hazards (Sec. 1910.1017(l))

 Under paragraph 1910.1017(l)(2), the employer shall include vinyl

chloride and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) in the program established to

comply with the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) (Sec. 1910.1200).

The employer shall ensure that each employee has access to labels on

containers of chemicals and substances associated with vinyl and

polyvinyl chloride and to safety data sheets, and is trained in accord

with the provisions of HCS and paragraph (l) of this section. The

employer shall ensure that at least the following hazard is addressed:

Cancer.

(G) Recordkeeping (Sec. 1910.1017(m))

 Employers must maintain worker exposure and medical records.

Medical and monitoring records are maintained principally for worker

access, but are designed to provide valuable information to both

workers and employers. The medical and monitoring records required by

this standard will aid workers and their physicians in determining

whether or not treatment or other interventions are needed for VC

exposure. The information also will enable employers to ensure that

workers are not being overexposed; such information may alert the

employer that steps must be taken to reduce VC exposures.

 Exposure records must be maintained for at least 30 years, and

medical records must be kept for the duration of employment plus 20

years, or for a total of 30 years, whichever is longer. Records must be

kept for extended periods because of the long latency period associated

with VC-related carcinogenesis (i.e., cancer). Cancer often cannot be

detected until 20 or more years after the first exposure to VC.

II. Special Issues for Comment

 OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

 Whether the proposed information collection requirements

are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency's functions,

including whether the information is useful;

 The accuracy of OSHA's estimate of the burden (time and

costs) of the information collection requirements, including the

validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

 The quality, utility, and clarity of the information

collected; and

 Ways to minimize the burden on employers who must comply;

for example, by using automated or other technological information

collection and transmission techniques.

III. Proposed Actions

 OSHA is requesting that OMB extend its approval of the information

collection requirements contained in the Vinyl Chloride Standard. The

Agency is requesting an adjustment decrease in burden hours from 549 to

535 hours, a total decrease of 14 burden hours. The reduction is a

result of few VC and PVC establishments identified for this ICR. The

currently approved ICR estimates a total of 26 establishments, and this

proposed ICR estimates a total of 24 establishments. The adjustment of

the burden hours are shown in detail by provision in the supporting

statement.

[[Page 72033]]

 Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

 Title: Vinyl Chloride Standard (29 CFR 1910.1017).

 OMB Control Number: 1218-0010.

 Affected Public: Business or other for-profits.

 Number of Respondents: 24.

 Frequency of Responses: On occasion; annually.

 Total Responses: 835.

 Average Time per Response: Varies from five minutes (.08 hour) for

employers to maintain records to 12 hours for employers to update their

compliance plans.

 Estimated Total Burden Hours: 535.

 Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance): $43,320.

IV. Public Participation--Submission of Comments on This Notice and

Internet Access to Comments and Submissions

 You may submit comments in response to this document as follows:

(1) Electronically at [http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/), which is the Federal

eRulemaking Portal; (2) by facsimile (fax); or (3) by hard copy. All

comments, attachments, and other material must identify the Agency name

and the OSHA docket number (Docket No. OSHA-2011-0196) for the ICR. You

may supplement electronic submissions by uploading document files

electronically. If you wish to mail additional materials in reference

to an electronic or facsimile submission, you must submit them to the

OSHA Docket Office (see the section of this notice titled ADDRESSES).

The additional materials must clearly identify your electronic comments

by your name, date, and the docket number so the Agency can attach them

to your comments.

 Because of security procedures, the use of regular mail may cause a

significant delay in the receipt of comments. For information about

security procedures concerning the delivery of materials by hand,

express delivery, messenger, or courier service, please contact the

OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-2350, (TTY (877) 889-5627).

 Comments and submissions are posted without change at

[http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/). Therefore, OSHA cautions commenters about

submitting personal information such as social security numbers and

date of birth. Although all submissions are listed in the

[http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/) index, some information (e.g., copyrighted

material) is not publicly available to read or download from this Web

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 All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for

inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. Information on using

the [http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/) Web site to submit comments and access

the docket is available at the Web site's "User Tips" link. Contact

the OSHA Docket Office for information about materials not available

from the Web site, and for assistance in using the Internet to locate

docket submissions.

V. Authority and Signature

 David Michaels, Ph.D., MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for

Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this

notice. The authority for this notice is the Paperwork Reduction Act of

1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506 et seq.) and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 1-2012

(77 FR 3912).

 Signed at Washington, DC, on December 1, 2014.

David Michaels,

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 2014-28500 Filed 12-3-14; 8:45 am]

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production, process or control that may result in an increase in the

release of VC.

 Paragraph 1910.1017(n) requires employers to inform each worker of

their exposure monitoring results within 15 working days after

receiving these results. Employers may notify workers either

individually in writing or by posting the monitoring results in an

appropriate location that is accessible to the workers. In addition, if

the exposure monitoring results show that a worker's exposure exceeds

the PEL, the employer must inform the exposed worker of the corrective

action the employer is taking to prevent such overexposure.

(B) Written Compliance Plan (Sec. Sec. 1910.1017(f)(2) and (f)(3))

 Paragraph (f)(2) requires employers whose engineering and work

practice controls cannot sufficiently reduce worker VC exposures to a

level at or below the PEL to develop and implement a plan for doing so.

Paragraph (f)(3) requires employers to develop this written plan and

provide it upon request to OSHA for examination and copying. These

plans must be updated annually.

(C) Respirator Program (Sec. 1910.1017(g)(2))

 When respirators are required, the employer must establish a

respiratory protection program in accord with 1910.134, paragraphs (b)

through (d) (except (d)(1)(iii) and (d)(3)(iii)(B)(1) and (2)) and (f)

through (m). Paragraph 1910.134(c) requires the employer to develop and

implement a written respiratory protection program with worksite-

specific procedures and elements for required respirator use. The

purpose of these requirements is to ensure that employers establish a

standardized procedure for selecting, using, and maintaining

respirators for each workplace where respirators will be used.

Developing written procedures ensures that employers develop a

respirator program that meets the needs of their workers.

(D) Emergency Plan (Sec. 1910.1017(i))

 Employers must develop a written operational plan for dealing with

emergencies; the plan must address the storage, handling, and use of VC

as a liquid or compressed gas. In the event of an emergency,

appropriate elements of the plan must be implemented. Emergency plans

must maximize workers' personal protection and minimize the hazards of

an emergency.

(E) Medical Surveillance (Sec. 1910.1017(k))

 Paragraph (k) requires employers to develop a medical surveillance

program for workers exposed to VC in excess of the action level.

Examinations must be provided in accord with this paragraph at least

annually. Employers must also obtain, and provide to each worker, a

copy of a physician's statement regarding the worker's suitability for

continued exposure to VC, including use of protective equipment and

respirators, if appropriate.

(F) Communication of VC Hazards (Sec. 1910.1017(l))

 Under paragraph 1910.1017(l)(2), the employer shall include vinyl

chloride and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) in the program established to

comply with the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) (Sec. 1910.1200).

The employer shall ensure that each employee has access to labels on

containers of chemicals and substances associated with vinyl and

polyvinyl chloride and to safety data sheets, and is trained in accord

with the provisions of HCS and paragraph (l) of this section. The

employer shall ensure that at least the following hazard is addressed:

Cancer.

(G) Recordkeeping (Sec. 1910.1017(m))

 Employers must maintain worker exposure and medical records.

Medical and monitoring records are maintained principally for worker

access, but are designed to provide valuable information to both

workers and employers. The medical and monitoring records required by

this standard will aid workers and their physicians in determining

whether or not treatment or other interventions are needed for VC

exposure. The information also will enable employers to ensure that

workers are not being overexposed; such information may alert the

employer that steps must be taken to reduce VC exposures.

 Exposure records must be maintained for at least 30 years, and

medical records must be kept for the duration of employment plus 20

years, or for a total of 30 years, whichever is longer. Records must be

kept for extended periods because of the long latency period associated

with VC-related carcinogenesis (i.e., cancer). Cancer often cannot be

detected until 20 or more years after the first exposure to VC.

II. Special Issues for Comment

 OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

 Whether the proposed information collection requirements

are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency's functions,

including whether the information is useful;

 The accuracy of OSHA's estimate of the burden (time and

costs) of the information collection requirements, including the

validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

 The quality, utility, and clarity of the information

collected; and

 Ways to minimize the burden on employers who must comply;

for example, by using automated or other technological information

collection and transmission techniques.

III. Proposed Actions

 OSHA is requesting that OMB extend its approval of the information

collection requirements contained in the Vinyl Chloride Standard. The

Agency is requesting an adjustment decrease in burden hours from 549 to

535 hours, a total decrease of 14 burden hours. The reduction is a

result of few VC and PVC establishments identified for this ICR. The

currently approved ICR estimates a total of 26 establishments, and this

proposed ICR estimates a total of 24 establishments. The adjustment of

the burden hours are shown in detail by provision in the supporting

statement.

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 Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

 Title: Vinyl Chloride Standard (29 CFR 1910.1017).

 OMB Control Number: 1218-0010.

 Affected Public: Business or other for-profits.

 Number of Respondents: 24.

 Frequency of Responses: On occasion; annually.

 Total Responses: 835.

 Average Time per Response: Varies from five minutes (.08 hour) for

employers to maintain records to 12 hours for employers to update their

compliance plans.

 Estimated Total Burden Hours: 535.

 Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance): $43,320.

IV. Public Participation--Submission of Comments on This Notice and

Internet Access to Comments and Submissions

 You may submit comments in response to this document as follows:

(1) Electronically at [http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/), which is the Federal

eRulemaking Portal; (2) by facsimile (fax); or (3) by hard copy. All

comments, attachments, and other material must identify the Agency name

and the OSHA docket number (Docket No. OSHA-2011-0196) for the ICR. You

may supplement electronic submissions by uploading document files

electronically. If you wish to mail additional materials in reference

to an electronic or facsimile submission, you must submit them to the

OSHA Docket Office (see the section of this notice titled ADDRESSES).

The additional materials must clearly identify your electronic comments

by your name, date, and the docket number so the Agency can attach them

to your comments.

 Because of security procedures, the use of regular mail may cause a

significant delay in the receipt of comments. For information about

security procedures concerning the delivery of materials by hand,

express delivery, messenger, or courier service, please contact the

OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-2350, (TTY (877) 889-5627).

 Comments and submissions are posted without change at

[http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/). Therefore, OSHA cautions commenters about

submitting personal information such as social security numbers and

date of birth. Although all submissions are listed in the

[http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/) index, some information (e.g., copyrighted

material) is not publicly available to read or download from this Web

site.

 All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for

inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. Information on using

the [http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/) Web site to submit comments and access

the docket is available at the Web site's "User Tips" link. Contact

the OSHA Docket Office for information about materials not available

from the Web site, and for assistance in using the Internet to locate

docket submissions.

V. Authority and Signature

 David Michaels, Ph.D., MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for

Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this

notice. The authority for this notice is the Paperwork Reduction Act of

1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506 et seq.) and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 1-2012

(77 FR 3912).

 Signed at Washington, DC, on December 1, 2014.

David Michaels,

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 2014-28500 Filed 12-3-14; 8:45 am]

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