

**NON- SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE REQUEST FOR THE APPLICATION FOR
APPROVAL OF A REPORT OF CHANGES THAT MAY AFFECT YOUR BLACK
LUNG BENEFITS CM-929 AND CM-929P.
OMB CONTROL NO. 1240-0028 (July 2024)**

DCMWC is requesting a non-substantive change to the approved collection of information contained in the “Report of Changes That May Affect Your Black Lung Benefits” to:

- 1 . Temporarily remove the below check box that was added to the beginning of the forms in the last renewal of this collection.

Check box if no information has changed on form. **(Skip to signature box and sign)**

This check box was added to allow the Artificial Intelligence (AI) system to read this entry and automatically review the forms. Unfortunately, the AI implementation was delayed and will now be implemented by 10/01/2024. Therefore, we request approval to use the version of the form without the check box, now through 09/30/2024, and to use the version of the form that includes the check box after this date.

- 2 . Incorporate an “Online Contact Form” that allows beneficiaries under the Black Lung Benefits Act (BLBA) to immediately report changes in address, changes in banking information, the death of an eligible dependent; and/or to immediately notify OWCP of administrative requests or issues related to their black lung benefits. Beneficiaries may download this electronically fillable Online Contact Form through the Coal Mine Portal and may then complete the form and upload it to their case file therein.

OWCP seeks to implement this change to improve customer service. Under the BLBA, beneficiaries are required to immediately report the death of a spouse or child as these events could affect the amount of a beneficiary’s monthly compensation. If a death is not timely reported and a beneficiary is overpaid, OWCP must begin a reclamation process to recover all payments issued after death. As OWCP sends beneficiaries the annual CM-929 and CM-929P only once per year and beneficiaries must wait to receive these forms before they can return them to OWCP with updated information, beneficiaries often choose to call OWCP to immediately report a death or eligibility changes of a spouse or child. The proposed “Online Contact Form” is intended to provide an alternative means to a phone call for beneficiaries to immediately update this information with OWCP. This self-service option would not replace the yearly collection of this ICR; the form will supplement, rather than replace, the CM-929 and CM-929P.

Similarly, when a beneficiary’s banking information or address change, the beneficiary often calls OWCP to report the change because it could affect the timeliness of their receipt of compensation. The proposed “Online Contact Form” is intended to provide beneficiaries seeking to update their address or banking information a means of doing so themselves.

These change requests do not affect the burden hours.¹

¹ The burden associated with a beneficiary’s notifying OWCP of the death of a spouse or child is subsumed in the burden estimate for 1240-0028 regarding the 10% of respondents who make

Both versions of the CM-929 and CM-929P forms are attached to this change request as well as the “Online Contact Form.”

changes to their CM-929 and CM-929P forms annually. Once a beneficiary updates this information using the “Online Contact Form,” the updates will be incorporated into the CM-929 or CM-929P that OWCP will send them that year. These beneficiaries therefore will not have to make the same update on their CM-929 or CM-929P form. Similarly, the burden associated with collecting updated banking information is subsumed in OWCP’s use of Standard Form 1199A, which OMB has approved for use as a Standard Form by Federal agencies in 1530-0006. Once a beneficiary updates their banking information using the Online Contact Form, they need not complete SF 1199A to update this information.