

materials such as studies or journal articles to electronic comments. If you have additional materials, you must submit three copies of them to the OSHA Docket Office at the address above. The additional materials must clearly identify your electronic comments by name, date, subject and docket number so we can attach them to your comments. Because of security-related problems there may be a significant delay in the receipt of comments by regular mail. Please contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-2350 for information about security procedures concerning the delivery of material by express delivery, hand delivery and messenger service.

II. 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 accordance 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 minimized, collection instruments are understandable, and OSHA's estimate of the information-collection burden is correct.

This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and cost) is minimal, collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA's estimate of the information-collection burden is correct. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1910 (the Act) 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 Rigging Equipment in Construction Standard (*i.e.*, "the Standard") specifies the paperwork requirements. The following section describes who uses the information collected under each requirement, as well as how they use it.

Alloy Steel Chains, Paragraph (b)

Paragraph (b)(1) requires that alloy steel chains have permanently affixed durable identification tags, stating size, grade, rated capacity and sling manufacturer. Paragraph (b)(6)(i) requires the employer to make a thorough periodic inspection of alloy steel chain slings in use on a regular basis, but at least once a year. Paragraph

(b)(6)(ii) requires the employer to make and maintain a record of the most recent month in which each alloy steel chain was inspected and make the record available for examination.

End Attachments, Paragraph (c)

Paragraph (c)(15)(ii) requires that all welded end attachments of wire rope slings be proof tested by the manufacturer at twice their rated capacity prior to initial use, and that the employer retain a certificate of the proof test and make it available for examination.

Synthetic Webbing (nylon, polyester, and polypropylene), Paragraph (e)

Paragraphs (e)(1)(i), (ii), and (iii) requires that synthetic web slings be marked or coded to show the manufacturer's trademark, rated capacity for the type of hitch and type of synthetic web material.

Shackles and Hooks, Paragraph (f)

Paragraph (f)(2) requires that all hooks for which no applicable manufacturer's recommendations are available be tested twice before they are put into use. The employer shall maintain a record of the dates and results of the tests.

III. 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 to protect workers, 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.

IV. Proposed Actions

OSHA is proposing to extend the collection-of-information in the Rigging Equipment Standard (29 CFR 1926.251).

The Agency will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice, and will include this summary in its request to OMB to extend the approval of these information-collection requirements.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently-approved information-collection requirement.

Title: Rigging Equipment for Material handling (29 CFR 1926.25(b)(1), (b)(6)(i),

(b)(6)(ii), (c)(15)(ii), (e)(1)(i), (ii), and (iii), and (f)(2).

OMB Number: 1218-0233.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Federal government; State, local or tribal governments.

Number of Respondents: 1,327,370.

Frequency of Recordkeeping: On occasion.

Average Time Per Response: Average 3 minutes (.05 hour) for an employer to maintain and disclose a certificate to 30 minutes (.5 hour) for employer to acquire information and make a tag for a sling.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 56,335.

Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance): \$0.

IV. Authority and Signature

John L. Henshaw, 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), and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 5-2002 (67 FR 65008).

Signed at Washington, DC, on March 23, 2004.

John L. Henshaw,

Assistant Secretary of Labor.

[FR Doc. 04-6848 Filed 3-25-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-1218-0218(2004)]

Hydrostatic Testing Provision of the Portable Fire Extinguishers 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 comment.

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits comments concerning its proposal to extend OMB approval of the information collection requirement contained in the Hydrostatic Testing Provision of the Portable Fire Extinguishers Standard (29 CFR 1910.157(f)(16)). The paperwork provision of the hydrostatic testing provision specifies requirements for developing and maintaining certification records to demonstrate that portable fire extinguishers have been tested in accordance with and at intervals specified by the Standard (29

CFR 1910.157(f)(16)). The purpose of the requirement is to reduce employees' risk of death or serious injury by ensuring that portable fire extinguishers are in safe operating condition.

DATES: Comments must be submitted by the following dates:

Hard copy: Your comments must be submitted (postmarked or received) by May 25, 2004.

Facsimile and electronic transmission: Your comments must be received by May 25, 2004.

ADDRESSES:

I. Submission of Comments

Regular mail, express delivery, hand delivery, and messenger service: Submit your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. ICR 1218-0218(2004), Room N-2625, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. OSHA Docket Office and Department of Labor hours of operation are: 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., e.s.t.

Facsimile: If your comments, including any attachments, are 10 pages or fewer, you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-1648. You must include the docket number, ICR 1218-0218(2004), in your comments.

Electronic: You may submit comments, but not attachments, through the Internet at <http://ecomments.osha.gov/>.

II. Obtaining Copies of the Supporting Statement for the Information Collection Request

The Supporting Statement for the Information Collection Request (ICR) is available for downloading from OSHA's Web site at <http://www.osha.gov>. The supporting statement is available for inspection and copying in the OSHA Docket Office, at the address listed above. A printed copy of the ICR can be obtained by contacting Theda Kenney at (202) 693-2222.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theda Kenney, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-2222.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Submission of Comments on This Notice and Internet Access to Comments and Submissions

You may submit comments in response to this document by (1) hard copy, (2) fax transmission (facsimile), or (3) electronically through the OSHA Web page. Please note you cannot attach materials such as studies or journal articles to electronic comments. If you

have additional materials, you must submit three copies of them to the OSHA Docket Office at the address above. The additional materials must clearly identify your electronic comments by name, date, subject and docket number so we can attach them to your comments. Because of security-related problems, there may be a significant delay in the receipt of comments by regular mail. Please contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-2350 for information about security procedures concerning the delivery of materials by express delivery, hand delivery, and messenger service.

II. 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 accordance 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 correct. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the "Act") authorizes information collection by employers regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents (29 U.S.C. 657).

The following section describes who uses the information on the hydrostatic testing of portable fire extinguishers that is collected under the records requirement (29 CFR 1910.157(f)(16)), as well as how they use it. The purpose of the requirement is to reduce employees' risk of death or serious injury by ensuring that portable fire extinguishers are in safe operating condition.

The following describes who uses the information in the certification record, as well as how they use it. The purpose of the requirement is to reduce employees' risk of death or serious injury by ensuring that portable fire extinguishers are in safe operation condition.

Test Records (§ 1910.157(f)(16))

Paragraph (f)(16) requires employers to develop and maintain a certification record of hydrostatic testing of portable fire extinguishers. The certification record must include the date of inspection, the signature of the person who performed the test, and the serial number (or other identifier) of the fire extinguisher that was tested.

Disclosure of Test Certification Records

The certification record must be made available to the Assistant Secretary or his representative upon request. The certification record provides assurance to employers, employees, and OSHA compliance officers that the fire extinguishers have been hydrostatically tested in accordance with and at the intervals specified in § 1910.157(f)(16), thereby ensuring that they will operate properly in the event employees need to use them. Additionally, these records provide the most efficient means for compliance officers to determine that an employer is complying with the hydrostatic testing provision.

III. 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 to protect workers, 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.

IV. Proposed Actions

OSHA is proposing to extend the information collection requirement in the Hydrostatic Testing Provision of the Portable Fire Extinguishers Standard (29 CFR 1910.157(f)(16)). OSHA will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice, and will include this summary in the request to OMB to extend the approval of the information collection requirement.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently-approved information-collection requirement.

Title: The Hydrostatic Testing Provision of the Portable Fire Extinguishers Standard (29 CFR 1910.157(f)(16)).

OMB Number: 1218-0218.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; State, local or tribal government; Federal government.

Number of Respondents: 9,000,000.

Frequency of Recordkeeping: On occasion.

Average Time per Response: Varies from one minute (.02 hour) to maintain

a certification record of fire extinguishers tested off-site to 32 minutes (.55 hour) to test fire extinguishers on-site and to generate and maintain the certification record.

Total Annual Hours Requested: 123,180.

Estimate Cost (Operation and Maintenance): \$12,240,000.

V. Authority and Signature

John L. Henshaw, 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), and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 5-2002 (67 FR 65008).

Signed in Washington, DC, on March 23, 2004.

John L. Henshaw,

Assistant Secretary of Labor.

[FR Doc. 04-6849 Filed 3-25-04; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-541)

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Pub. L. 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by April 26, 2004. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 292-7405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as

amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:

1. Applicant

Stacy Kim, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, San Jose State University, 8272 Moss Landing Road, Moss Landing, CA 95039-9647.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested

Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area. The applicant proposes to enter the Cape Royds Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA #121) for the purpose of diving within the marine boundaries of the site. This area is near a penguin rookery and experiences significant organic enrichment from runoff of guano. This natural enrichment to the pelagic and benthic communities can be compared to the anthropogenic enrichment from the near McMurdo Station. Access to the site will be via tracked vehicle across the sea ice from McMurdo Station, approaching the vicinity of Shackleton's Depot. Depending on the sea ice, it may be necessary to walk diving gear to the dive locations within the marine boundaries of the site, but outside the marked boundaries of the rookery. The applicant proposes to make approximately 3-4 dives to collect samples.

Location

Cape Royds, Ross Island (ASPA #121).

Dates

October 13, 2004 to December 10, 2004.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 04-6819 Filed 3-25-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Committee for Computer and Information Science and Engineering; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Advisory Committee for Computer and Information Science and Engineering—(1115).

Date and Time: April 23, 2004: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Place: Stafford II, room 555, 4121 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Open.

Contact Person: Gwen Barber-Blount, Office of the Assistant Director, Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1105, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 292-8900.

Minutes: May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

Purpose of Meeting: To advise NSF on the impact of its policies, programs and activities on the CISE community. To provide advice to the Assistant Director/CISE on issues related to long range planning, and to form ad hoc subcommittees to carry out needed studies and tasks.

Agenda: Report from the Assistant Director. Discussion of education, diversity, workforce issues in IT; science of design; and cyberinfrastructure.

Dated: March 23, 2004.

Susanne Bolton,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-6812 Filed 3-25-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Committee for Mathematical and Physical Sciences; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Advisory Committee for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (#66).

Date/Time: April 22, 2004, 8 AM-6 PM; April 23, 2004, 8 AM-3:30 PM.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, Room 375.

Type of Meeting: Open.

Contact Person: Dr. Morris L. Aizenman, Senior Science Associate, Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Room 1005 National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. (703) 292-8807.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning NSF science and education activities within the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences.

Agenda: Briefing on current status of Directorate, Update and Discussion of MPS Long-term Planning Activities, Meeting of MPSAC with Divisions within MPS Directorate, Review by MPSAC of Committee of Visitors Reports for the Division of Chemistry and the Division of Mathematical Sciences.

Summary of Minutes: May be obtained from the contact person listed above.