

I. Background

The administration of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended by the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2015 (TAAEA 2015), is the responsibility of the Secretary of Labor. Through agreements (Governor-Secretary Agreements) established with states, states serve as agents of the Department in making payments to workers who have lost their jobs as a result of foreign trade and are certified eligible for the TAA Program. Section 241 of the Trade Act provides that: “the Secretary shall from time to time certify to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment to each cooperating state the sums necessary to enable such State as agents of the United States to make payments provided for by this chapter.”

As such, states may request reserve funds before the Final Distribution to cover the costs of Training, Job Search Allowances and Relocation Allowances, Employment and Case Management Services and State Administration of these benefits. Reserve funds will be distributed to states in accordance with 20 CFR 618.920 on an as-needed basis in response to reserve fund requests to provide monies to those states that experience large, unexpected layoffs or otherwise have training needs that are not met by their initial allocation. These funds must be requested using the Form ETA-9117 (OMB No. 1205-0275).

II. Review Focus

The Department is particularly interested in comments which:

- 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 submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions

Type of Review: Extension with no revisions.

Title: Investigative Data Collections for the Trade Act of 1974, as amended.

OMB Number: 1205-0275.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households, Businesses, State, Local or Tribal Governments.

Form(s): ETA 9117, Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Reserve Funding Request Form (1205-0275).

Total Annual Respondents: 25.

Annual Frequency: On occasion.

Total Annual Responses: 25.

Average Time per Response: 2 Hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 50.

Total Annual Burden Cost for Respondents: \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the ICR; they will also become a matter of public record.

Portia Wu,

Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, Labor.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Surface Coal Mine Daily Inspection, Certified Person, and Report of Inspection

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) sponsored information collection request (ICR) titled, “Surface Coal Mine Daily Inspection, Certified Person, and Report of Inspection,” to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval for continued use, without change, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* Public comments on the ICR are invited.

DATES: The OMB will consider all written comments that agency receives on or before April 11, 2016.

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 free of charge from the RegInfo.gov Web site at http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=201508-1219-002 (this link will only become active on the day following publication of this notice) or by contacting Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129, TTY 202-

693-8064, (these are not toll-free numbers) or by email at DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

Submit comments about this request by mail or courier to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for DOL-MSHA, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503; by Fax: 202-395-5806 (this is not a toll-free number); or by email: OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov. Commenters are encouraged, but not required, to send a courtesy copy of any comments by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor-OASAM, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Attn: Departmental Information Compliance Management Program, Room N1301, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210; or by email: DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129, TTY 202-693-8064, (these are not toll-free numbers) or by email at DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This ICR seeks to extend PRA authority for the Surface Coal Mine Daily Inspection, Certified Person, and Report of Inspection information collection requirements codified in regulations 30 CFR 77.1713 that requires an operator of either or both a surface coal mine and surface facility to keep a record of the results of required examinations for hazardous conditions. These records consist of the nature and location of any hazardous condition found and the actions taken to abate the hazardous condition. Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 sections 101(a) and 103(h) authorize this information collection. *See* 30 U.S.C. 811(a), 813(h).

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 that does not display a valid Control Number. *See* 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6. The DOL obtains OMB approval for this information collection under Control Number 1219-0083.

OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal, and the current approval for this collection is scheduled to expire on

March 31, 2016. The DOL seeks to extend PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) more years, without any change to existing requirements. The DOL notes that existing information collection requirements submitted to the OMB receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the **Federal Register** on September 23, 2015 (80 FR 57397).

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 thirty (30) days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB Control Number 1219-0083. 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-MSHA.

Title of Collection: Surface Coal Mine Daily Inspection, Certified Person, and Report of Inspection.

OMB Control Number: 1219-0083.

Affected Public: Private Sector—businesses or other for-profits.

Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,100.

Total Estimated Number of Responses: 343,200.

Total Estimated Annual Time Burden: 514,800 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: \$0.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D).

Dated: March 7, 2016.

Michel Smyth,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA-2012-0035]

Traylor Bros., Inc.; Grant of a Permanent Variance

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this notice, OSHA grants a permanent variance to Traylor Bros., Inc., from the provisions of OSHA standards that regulate work in compressed-air environments at 29 CFR 1926.803.

DATES: The permanent variance specified by this notice becomes effective on March 11, 2016 and shall remain in effect until it is modified or revoked.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Information regarding this notice is available from the following sources:

Press inquiries: Contact Mr. Frank Meilinger, Director, OSHA Office of Communications, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-3647, Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-1999; email: Meilinger.frank@dol.gov.

General and technical information: Contact Mr. Kevin Robinson, Director, Office of Technical Programs and Coordination Activities, Directorate of Technical Support and Emergency Management, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-3655, Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-2110; email: Robinson.kevin@dol.gov. OSHA's Web page includes information about the Variance Program (see <http://www.osha.gov/dts/otpca/variances/index.html>).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Copies of this Federal Register notice.

Electronic copies of this **Federal Register** notice are available at <http://www.regulations.gov>. This **Federal Register** notice, as well as news releases and other relevant information, also are available at OSHA's Web page at <http://www.osha.gov>.

I. Notice of Application

On April 26, 2012, Traylor Bros., Inc., 835 N. Congress Ave., Evansville, IN 47715, and Traylor/Skanska/Jay Dee Joint Venture, Blue Plains Tunnel, 5000 Overlook SW., Washington, DC 20032, submitted under Section 6(d) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of

1970 ("OSH Act"; 29 U.S.C. 655) and 29 CFR 1905.11 ("Variances and other relief under section 6(d)"), an application for a permanent variance from several provisions of the OSHA standard that regulates work in compressed air at 29 CFR 1926.803. Subsequently, OSHA addressed this request as two separate applications: (1) Traylor Bros., Inc. ("Traylor" or "the applicant") request for a permanent variance for future tunneling projects; and (2) Traylor/Skanska/Jay Dee Joint Venture, Blue Plains Tunnel ("Traylor JV"). This notice only addresses the Traylor application for a permanent variance for future tunneling projects. This notice does not address Traylor JV's application for a permanent variance for the Blue Plains Tunnel project. On March 27, 2015, OSHA granted Traylor JV a permanent variance for completion of the Blue Plains Tunnel (80 FR 16440).

As previously indicated, this notice addresses grant of a permanent variance to Traylor applicable to future tunneling projects, from the provisions of the standard that: (1) Prohibit compressed-air worker (CAW) exposure to pressures exceeding 50 pounds per square inch (p.s.i.) except in an emergency (29 CFR 1926.803(e)(5));¹ (2) require the use of the decompression values specified in decompression tables in Appendix A of the compressed-air standard for construction (29 CFR 1926.803(f)(1)); and (3) require the use of automated operational controls and a special decompression chamber (29 CFR 1926.803(g)(1)(iii) and .803(g)(1)(xvii), respectively).

According to its application, Traylor is a contractor that works on complex tunnel projects using newly developed advanced equipment and procedures for soft-ground tunneling. The applicant's workers engage in the construction of tunnels using advanced shielded mechanical excavation techniques in conjunction with an earth pressure balanced tunnel boring machine (EPBTBM).

Further, as stated in its application, Traylor is likely to be the sole contractor, as well as the general contractor in association with future Joint Venture partners for the construction of future tunnels at various sites throughout the nation. Traylor asserts that generally, it bores tunnels

¹ The decompression tables in Appendix A of subpart S express the maximum working pressures as pounds per square inch gauge (p.s.i.g.), with a maximum working pressure of 50 p.s.i.g. Therefore, throughout this notice, OSHA expresses the 50 p.s.i. value specified by § 1926.803(e)(5) as 50 p.s.i.g., consistent with the terminology in Appendix A, Table 1 of subpart S.