DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[DOCKET NO. OSHA–2011–0055]

Steel Erection; 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 Standard on Steel Erection.

DATES: Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by November 27, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Electronically: You may submit comments and attachments electronically at 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) 693–1648. Mail, hand delivery, express mail, messenger, or courier service: When using this method, you must submit three copies of your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA–2011–0055, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N–3653, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210. Deliveries (hand, express mail, messenger, and courier service) are accepted during the OSHA Docket Office’s normal business hours, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., ET.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and OSHA docket number (OSHA–2011–0055) 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. For further information on submitting comments, see the “Public Participation” heading in the section of this notice titled SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

Docket: To read or download comments or other materials in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov or the OSHA Docket Office at the address above. All documents in the docket (including this Federal Register notice) are listed in the http://www.regulations.gov index; however, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through the Web site. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. You may also contact Theda Kenney at the address below to obtain a copy of the ICR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theda Kenney or Todd Owen, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone (202) 693–2222: kenney.theda@dol.gov or owen.todd@dol.gov.

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 collection of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (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 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 OSH 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 OSHA to 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).

Section 1926.752(a)(1), Description of the requirement. Based on the results of a specified method for testing field-cured samples, the controlling contractor must provide the steel erector with written notification that the concrete in the footings, piers, and walls, or the mortar in the masonry piers and walls, is at 75% of its minimum compressive-design strength or has sufficient strength to support loads imposed during steel erection.

Note: This is not and will not be enforced for mortar in piers and walls until such time as OSHA is able to define an appropriate substitute or until an appropriate American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) test method is developed.

Sections 1926.752(a)(2) and 1926.755(b)(1), Description of the requirements. Under section 1926.752(a)(2), the controlling contractor, before it authorizes commencement of steel erection, must notify the steel erector in writing that any repairs, replacements, and modifications to anchor bolts (rods) have been made in accordance with section 1926.755(b)(1) which requires the controlling contractor to obtain approval from the project structural engineer of record for the repairs, replacements, and modifications.

Section 1926.753(c)(5), Description of the requirement. Employers must not deactivate safety latches on hooks or make them inoperable except for the situation when: A qualified rigger determines that it is safer to hoist and place purlins and single joists by doing so; or except when equivalent protection is provided in the site-specific erection plan.

Section 1926.753(e)(2), Description of the requirement. Employers must have the maximum capacity of the total multiple-lift rigging assembly, as well as each of its individual attachment points, certified by the manufacturer or a qualified rigger.

Sections 1926.755(b)(1) and 1926.755(b)(2), Description of the requirements. Under section 1926.755(b)(2), throughout steel erection the controlling contractor must notify the steel erector in writing of additional repairs, replacements, and modifications of anchor bolts (rods); section 1926.755(b)(1) requires that these repairs, replacements, and modifications not be made without
Paragraph (b) of the Appendix provides for the development of a site-specific erection plan. Preconstruction conference(s) and site inspection(s) are held between the erector and the controlling contractor, and others such as the project engineer and fabricator before the start of steel erection. The purpose of such conference(s) is to develop and review the site-specific erection plan that will meet the requirements of this section.

Appendix A to Subpart R, paragraphs (c), (c)(1)–(c)(9), (d), (d)(1) and (d)(2). Description of the requirement. These paragraphs of Appendix A describe the components of a site-specific erection plan, including: The sequence of erection activity developed in coordination with the controlling contractor; a description of the crane and derrick selection and placement procedures; a description of the fall protection procedures that will be used to comply with section 1926.760; a description of the procedures that will be used to comply with section 1926.759; a description of the special procedures required for hazardous, non-routine tasks; a certification for each employee who has received training for performing steel erection operations as required by section 1926.761; a list of the qualified and competent persons; a description of the procedures that will be utilized in the event of rescue or emergency response; the identification of the site and project; and signed and dated by the qualified person(s) responsible for its preparation and modification.

Paragraph (c)(4)(ii) of Appendix G to Subpart R. Description of the requirement. This mandatory appendix duplicates the regulatory requirements of section 1926.502 ("Fall protection systems criteria and practices"), notably the requirements specified in paragraph (c)(4)(ii). This paragraph addresses the certification of safety nets as an option available to employers who can demonstrate that performing a drop test on safety nets is unreasonable. This provision allows such employers to certify that their safety nets, including the installation of the nets, protect workers at least as well as safety nets that meet the drop-test criteria. The employer must complete the certification process prior to using the net for fall protection, and the certificate must include the following information: Identification of the net and the type and size of the protective equipment; the net must be certified for use by the employer in the manner specified in the documentation; the employer must ensure that the net is used in accordance with the instructions and guidelines provided by the manufacturer; and the signature of the party making this determination.

The most recent certificate must be available at the jobsite for inspection.

II. Special Issues for Comment

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

- Whether the proposed collection of information is 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 an adjustment increase of 9,426 burden hours, from 23,360 to 30,819 burden hours. This increase is due in part to an increase in estimated worksites associated with this subpart, from 13,864 to 16,748. The increase also results from the Agency's determination that information collection requirements identified in Subpart R—Steel Erection's non-mandatory Appendix A are covered by the PRA.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.
Title: Steel Erection (29 CFR Part 1928, Subpart R).
OMB Control Number: 1118-0041.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profits.
Number of Respondents: 70,329.
Frequency: On occasion, annually; triennially.
Average Time per Response: Various.
Estimated Number of Responses: 92,160.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: 30,819.
Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance): $0.

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, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal; or
2. By facsimile (fax); or
3. By hard copy. All comments, attachments, and other material must identify the Agency name and OSHA's docket number 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. 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 index, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through 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 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 through the Web site, and for assistance in using the Internet to locate docket submissions.

V. Authority and Signature

Loren Sweatt, Deputy 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 September 19, 2017.

Loren Sweatt,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

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BILLING CODE 4510–26–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
[Docket ID OSHA–2012–0029]

Hawaii State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health; Operational Status Agreement

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces a new Operational Status Agreement between the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Hawaii State Plan. This agreement specifies the respective areas of federal and state authority, and under which Hawaii will assume enforcement coverage in the private sector.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For press inquiries: Francis Meilinger, OSHA Office of Communications; telephone (202) 693–1999; email: meilinger.francis2@dol.gov. For general and technical information: Douglas J. Kalinowski, Director, OSHA Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs; telephone: (202) 693–2200; email: kalinowski.doug@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background


During the period 2009–2012, the Hawaii State Plan faced major budgetary and staffing restraints that significantly affected its program. Therefore, the Hawaii Director of Labor and Industrial Relations requested a temporary modification of the State Plan’s approval status from final approval to initial approval, to permit exercise of supplemental federal enforcement activity and to allow Hawaii sufficient time and assistance to strengthen its State Plan. On September 21, 2012, OSHA published a Final Rule in the Federal Register (77 FR 58488) that modified the Hawaii State Plan’s “final approval” determination under Section 18(e) of the Act, transitioned the Plan to “initial approval” status under Section 18(b) of the Act, and reinstated concurrent federal enforcement authority over occupational safety and health issues in the private sector. That Federal Register notice also provided notice of the Operational Status Agreement (OSA) between OSHA and the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Division (HIOSH), which specified the respective areas of federal and state authority.

HIOSH and OSHA have since worked together to strengthen the State Plan, and HIOSH has achieved the milestones established to resume practically all private-sector enforcement authority.

Notice of New Operational Status Agreement

OSHA and HIOSH signed a new OSA on April 13, 2017, which replaced the prior 2012 OSA. Federal OSHA and HIOSH will exercise their respective enforcement authorities according to the terms of the 2017 OSA between OSHA and HIOSH, which specifies the respective areas of federal and state authority. Among other things, Federal OSHA retains coverage over all federal employees, contractors, and subcontractors at Hawaii National Parks and on any other federal establishment where the land is determined to be under exclusive federal jurisdiction; private-sector maritime activities; private-sector employees within the secured borders of all military installations where access is controlled; the U.S. Postal Service, its contract workers, and contractor-operated facilities; and the enforcement of Section 11(c) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. 660(c), the Act’s whistleblower provision. The Hawaii State Plan retains coverage over all state and local government employers and regains coverage over all private-sector employers not covered by federal OSHA, including marine construction not performed on vessels or other floating facilities. For further information please visit http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/osp/stateprogs/hawaii.html.

Authority and Signature

Loren Sweatt, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Labor, authorized the preparation of this notice. OSHA is issuing this notice under the authority specified by Section 18 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 667),