DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA–2017–0011]

Minnesota State Plan; Changes in Level of Federal Enforcement: Employment on Indian Reservations and Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant, and Coverage Clarifications

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document gives notice of OSHA’s approval of changes to the State of Minnesota’s Occupational Safety and Health State Plan that specify that non-Indian private-sector employment within an Indian reservation or on lands held in trust by the Federal Government, and employment on land formerly occupied by the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant, are included in its State Plan, and that make other minor coverage clarifications.

DATES: Applicable Date: December 12, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For press inquiries, contact Francis Meillinger, Director, OSHA Office of Communications, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone: (202) 693–1999; email: meillinger.francis@dol.gov.

For general and technical information, contact Douglas J. Kalinowski, Director, OSHA Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone: (202) 693–2200; email: kalinowski.doug@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 18 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 U.S.C. 667 (OSH Act), provides that States that wish to assume responsibility for developing and enforcing their own occupational safety and health standards may do so by submitting and obtaining federal approval of a State Plan. State Plan approval occurs in stages that include initial approval under Section 18(c) of the Act and, ultimately, final approval under Section 18(e).

The Minnesota State Plan was initially approved under Section 18(b) of the OSHA Act. 38 FR 15077 (June 8, 1973). The State Plan later received final approval. 50 FR 30832 (July 30, 1985). The Minnesota State Plan is administered by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA).

Under the Plan, MNOSHA covers state and local government employers and private-sector employers with certain exceptions. Originally, one of the exceptions was employment at the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant, which Federal OSHA covered because the United States had exclusive federal jurisdiction over the site. 50 FR 30832 (July 30, 1985). Later, another exception was added for tribal and private-sector employment within any Indian reservation in the State, which Federal OSHA also covered. 61 FR 36824 (July 15, 1996).

With the decommissioning and removal of the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant, MNOSHA requested that the exception to the State Plan’s coverage for the plant be eliminated. The land on which the plant stood was transferred to the county and as such, private-sector employment on this land would fall under the State Plan’s area of coverage. However, Federal OSHA continues to cover employment on land adjacent to the land transferred to the county because that adjacent land continues to be under exclusive federal jurisdiction. Federal OSHA granted this request.

MNOSHA also requested that the exception to the State Plan for tribal and private-sector employment on Indian reservations and lands held in trust by the Federal Government be changed so that MNOSHA could cover non-Indian private-sector employment in these areas. Federal OSHA continues to cover establishments owned or operated by Indian tribes or by enrolled members of Indian tribes. This approach to coverage is consistent with case law on federal and state authority over Indian lands. Federal OSHA granted this request.

These changes are reflected on the Federal OSHA web page for MNOSHA, http://www.osha.gov/dcp/osp/stateprogs/minnesota.html. In addition, that web page was updated to include two longstanding coverage features of the Minnesota State Plan which are also common to other State Plans. 50 FR 30832 (July 30, 1985). Federal OSHA covers any hazard, industry, geographical area, operation, or facility over which the State is unable to effectively exercise jurisdiction for reasons unrelated to the required performance or structure of the plan. Federal OSHA also covers Federal Government employers. Additionally, Federal OSHA covers the United States Postal Service (USPS), 65 FR 36622 (June 9, 2000).

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), Secretary of Labor’s Order No. 1–2012 (77 FR 3912), and 29 CFR parts 1902 and 1953.

Signed at Washington, DC, on December 1, 2017.

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

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[FR Doc. 2017–26676 Filed 12–11–17; 8:45 am]

Excavations (Design of Cave-in Protection Systems): 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 contained in the Standard on Excavations (Design of Cave-in Protection Systems).

DATES: Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by February 12, 2018.

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

et seq.) and Secretary of Labor’s Order No. 1–2012 (77 FR 3912).

Signed at Washington, DC, on December 6, 2017.

Loren Sweatt, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.
using this method, you must submit a copy of your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office. OSHA Docket No. OSHA–2011–0057, U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 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 Docket Office’s normal business hours, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., e.t.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and the OSHA docket number (OSHA–2011–0057) 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 material 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 website. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. You may also contact Theda Kenney at the phone number below to obtain a copy of the ICR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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 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).

Paragraphs (b) and (c) of § 1926.652 (“Requirements for Protective Systems;” the “Standard”) contain paperwork requirements that impose burden hours or costs on employers. These paragraphs require employers to use protective systems to prevent cave-ins during excavation work; these systems include sloping the side of the trench, benching the soil away from the excavation, or using a support system or shield (such as a trench box). The Standard specifies allowable configurations and slopes for excavations, and provides appendices to assist employers in designing protective systems. However, paragraphs (b)(3) and (b)(4) of the Standard permit employers to design sloping or benching systems based on tabulated data (Option 3), or to use a design approved by a registered professional engineer (Option 4).

Under Option 3, employers must provide the tabulated data in a written form that also identifies the registered professional engineer who approved the data and the parameters used to select the slope or benching system drawn from the data, as well as the limitations of the data (including the magnitude and configuration of slopes determined to be safe). The document must also provide any explanatory information necessary to select the correct benching system based on the data. Option 2 requires employers to develop a written design approved by a registered professional engineer. The design information must include the magnitude and configuration of the slopes determined to be safe, and the identity of the registered professional engineer who approved the design.

Paragraph (c)(2)(iii) allows employers to use manufacturer’s tabulated data or to deviate from the data provided. The manufacturer’s specification, recommendations, and limitations as well as the manufacturer’s approval to deviate from these items shall be in writing. Paragraph (c)(4) allow employers to design support systems, shield systems, and other protective systems based on tabulated data provided by a system manufacturer (Option 3) or obtained from other sources including a registered professional engineer and approved by a registered professional engineer (Option 4).

Each of these provisions requires employers to maintain a copy of the documents described in these options at the jobsite during construction. After construction is completed, employers may store the documents off-site provided they make them available to an OSHA compliance officer on request. These documents provide both the employer and the compliance officer with information needed to determine if the selection and design of a protective system are appropriate to the excavation work, thereby assuring workers maximum protection against cave-ins.

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

The Agency is requesting that OMB extend its approval of the information collection requirements contained in the Standard on Excavations (Design of Cave-in Protection Systems). An increase in the number of construction from 761,873 to 931,009 projects/sites has resulted in an adjustment increase in burden hours from 14,266 to 17,262—a total increase of 2,996 burden hours. OSHA increased the number of apartment and non-residential construction sites that would use outside contractor engineering services for the required protective system design approval from 2,038 to 2,466. There was an increase in hourly wage for a civil engineer from $53.17 to $63.16, which increased the overall cost from $216,721 to $311,505, a difference of $94,784.

The Agency will summarize any 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 requirements contained in the Standard.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title: Excavations (Design of Cave-in Protection Systems) (29 CFR part 1926, subpart P).

OMB Control Number: 1218–0137.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profits.

Number of Respondents: 8,382.

Number of Responses: 17,262.

Frequency of Responses: On occasion.

Average Time per Response: Various.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 17,262 hours.

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; (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–2011–0057) 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 dates 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 website. All subjective opinions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. Information on using the http://www.regulations.gov website to submit comments and access the docket is available at the website’s “User Tips” link. Contact the OSHA Docket Office for information about materials not available through the website 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 December 5, 2017.

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

[FR Doc. 2017–26675 Filed 12–11–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–26–P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice: 17–088]
National Space Council Users’ Advisory Group; Establishment

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of establishment of the National Space Council Users’ Advisory Group.

Pursuant to the NASA Authorization Act of 1991 (Pub. L. 101–611, Section 121), and Executive Order 13803 (“Reviving The National Space Council”), Section 6, signed by the President on June 30, 2017, NASA has established the National Space Council Users’ Advisory Group (UAG). The UAG is a non-discretionary statutory Federal advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (Pub. L. 92–463, as amended). NASA is sponsoring and managing the operations of the UAG on behalf of the National Space Council, Executive Office of the President. This determination follows consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat of the U.S. General Services Administration.

Pursuant to the FACA, the purpose of the UAG is to advise and shall be to ensure that the interests of industry, other non-Federal entities, and other persons involved in aeronautics and space activities are adequately represented in the deliberations of the National Space Council. The National Space Council is an Executive Branch interagency coordinating committee chaired by the Vice President, which is tasked with advising and assisting the President regarding national space policy and strategy.

Membership: Members of the UAG will serve either as “Representatives” (representing industry, other non-Federal entities, and other recognizable groups of persons involved in aeronautics and space activities) or “Special Government Employees” (individual subject matter experts).

Duration: Pursuant to Section 12(b) of the NASA Authorization Act of 1991, the UAG is not subject to Section 14a(2) of FACA, and shall exist on an ongoing basis.

 Responsible NASA Official: Dr. Jeff Waksman, Designated Federal Officer/Executive Secretary, NASA Headquarters, 300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546, phone: 202–358–3758 or email: jeff.l.waksman@nasa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Jeff Waksman, Designated Federal Officer/Executive Secretary, NASA Headquarters, 300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546, phone: 202–358–3758 or email: jeff.l.waksman@nasa.gov.

Patricia D. Rausch,
Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

[FR Doc. 2017–26765 Filed 12–11–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3580–26–P

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

[NARA–2018–009]
Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

AGENCY: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice at least once monthly of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). Once approved by NARA, records schedules provide mandatory instructions on what happens to records when agencies no longer need them for current Government business. The records schedules authorize agencies to preserve records of continuing value in the National Archives of the United States and to destroy, after a specified