DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Petitions for Modification of Application of Existing Mandatory Safety Standard

AGENCY: Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is a summary of a petition for modification submitted to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) by the parties listed below. All comments on the petition must be received by MSHA’s Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances on or before December 17, 2018.

DATES: All comments on the petition must be received by MSHA’s Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances on or before December 17, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit your comments, identified by “docket number” on the subject line, by any of the following methods:

1. Email: zzMSHA-comments@dol.gov. Include the docket number of the petition in the subject line of the message.


3. Regular Mail or Hand Delivery: MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 201 12th Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, Virginia 22202–5452, Attention: Sheila McConnell, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances. Persons delivering documents are required to check in at the receptionist’s desk in Suite 4E401. Individuals may inspect a copy of the petition and comments during normal business hours at the address listed above.

MSHA will consider only comments postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or proof of delivery from another delivery service such as UPS or Federal Express on or before the deadline for comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Barron, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances at 202–693–9447 (voice), barron.barbara@dol.gov (email), or 202–693–9441 (fax). [These are not toll-free numbers.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 and Title 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 44 govern the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for modification.

I. Background

Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act) allows the mine operator or representative of miners to file a petition to modify the application of any mandatory safety standard to a coal or other mine if the Secretary of Labor (Secretary) determines that:

1. An alternative method of achieving the result of such standard exists which will at all times guarantee no less than the same measure of protection afforded the miners of such mine by such standard; or

2. That the application of such standard to such mine will result in a diminution of safety to the miners in such mine.

In addition, the regulations at 30 CFR 44.10 and 44.11 establish the requirements and procedures for filing petitions for modification.

II. Petition for Modification

Docket Number: M–2018–019–C.

Petitioner: Knight Hawk Coal, LLC, 1710 State Route 154, Pinckneyville, Illinois 62274.


Regulation Affected: 30 CFR 75.500(d) (Permissible electric equipment).

Modification Request: The petitioner requests a modification of the existing standard to permit the use of nonpermissible, low-voltage or battery-powered electronic testing and diagnostic equipment in or inby the last open crosscut.

The petitioner states that:

1. The nonpermissible electronic testing and diagnostic equipment used in or inby the last open crosscut will be permissible

2. Other testing and diagnostic equipment may be used if approved in advance by MSHA’s District office.

3. Other testing and diagnostic equipment may be used if approved in advance by MSHA’s District office.

4. All nonpermissible, low-voltage or battery-powered electronic testing and diagnostic equipment to be used in or inby the last open crosscut will be examined prior to use by a certified person to ensure equipment is being maintained in a safe operating condition.

5. The results of such inspection will be recorded and retained for one year and made available to MSHA on request.

6. A qualified person, as defined in 30 CFR 75.151, will continuously monitor for methane immediately before

—How to 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.

Overview of This Information Collection

(1) Type of Information Collection: Extension of a currently approved collection.

(2) Title of the Form/Collection: Federal Coal Lease Reserves.

(3) Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection: Form Numbers: ATR–139 and ATR–140, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice.

(4) Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as brief abstract: Primary: Business or other for Profit. Other: None. The Department of Justice evaluates the competitive impact of issuances, transfers and exchanges of federal coal leases. These forms seek information regarding a prospective coal lessee’s existing coal reserves. The Department uses this information to determine whether the issuance, transfer or exchange of the federal coal lease is consistent with the antitrust laws.

(5) An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond. It is estimated that 10 respondents will complete each form, with each response taking approximately two hours.

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: There are an estimated 20 annual burden hours associated with this collection, in total.

If additional information is required, contact: Melody Braswell, Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Policy and Planning Staff, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: November 8, 2018.

Jonathan Mueller,

Department Clearance Officer, PRA, United States Department of Justice.
and during the use of nonpermissible electronic testing and diagnostic equipment in or in the last open crosscut.

(8) Nonpermissible electronic testing and diagnostic equipment will not be used if methane is detected in concentrations at or above one percent. When methane is detected at such levels while the nonpermissible electronic testing and diagnostic equipment is being used, the equipment will be deenergized immediately and withdrawn outby the last open crosscut.

(9) All hand-held methane detectors will be MSHA-approved and maintained in permissible and proper operating condition as defined in 30 CFR 75.320.

(10) Coal production will cease, except for the time necessary to troubleshoot under actual mining conditions. Coal may remain in or on the equipment in order to test and diagnose the equipment under load. Accumulations of coal and combustible materials referenced in 30 CFR 75.400 will be removed before testing begins to provide additional safety to miners.

(11) Nonpermissible electronic test and diagnostic equipment will not be used to test equipment when float coal dust is in suspension.

(12) All electronic and diagnostic equipment will be used in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommended safe use procedures.

(13) Qualified personnel engaged in the use of nonpermissible electronic testing and diagnostic equipment will be properly trained to recognize the hazards and limitations associated with the use of such equipment in areas where methane could be present.

(14) The nonpermissible electronic testing and diagnostic equipment will not be put into service until MSHA has inspected the equipment and determined that it is in compliance with all the above terms and conditions.

(15) Cables supplying power to low-voltage testing and diagnostic equipment will only be used when permissible testing and diagnostic equipment is unavailable.

(16) Within 60 days after the Proposed Decision and Order (PDO) becomes final, the petitioner will submit proposed revisions for its approved 30 CFR part 48 training plan to the District Manager. The revisions will specify initial and refresher training regarding the terms and conditions in the PDO.

The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method will at all times guarantee no less than the same measure of protection afforded by the existing standard.

Roslyn B. Fontaine,
Deputy Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

[FR Doc. 2018–24913 Filed 11–14–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4520–43–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Mine Safety and Health Administration
Petition for Modification

AGENCY: Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice; correction.

SUMMARY: This notice amends a notice published in the Federal Register on October 30, 2018, for Affirmative Decisions on Petitions for Modification Granted in Whole or in Part.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roslyn B. Fontaine, 202–693–9440.

Correction
A petition for modification for Docket Number M–2017–019–C, for Marfork Coal Company, LLC, 500 Lee Street East, Suite 701 (25301), Post Office Box 2548, Charleston, West Virginia 25329, referenced in the October 30, 2018 Federal Register notice on page 54616 in the 1st column, was inadvertently listed in the notice as granted. The petition was not granted.

Roslyn B. Fontaine,
Deputy Director, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances.

[FR Doc. 2018–24912 Filed 11–14–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4520–43–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
Notice of Intent To Seek Approval To Extend an Information Collection

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to request a new, one time data collection. The primary purpose of this data collection is to provide critical evidence for the Evaluation of the Centers for Chemical Innovation (CCI) Program. The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted this information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the Federal Register at 83 FR 27354, and one comments was received. NSF is forwarding the proposed new information collection submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice. The full submission may be found at: http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAmain.

DATES: Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725—17th Street, NW Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, and Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314, or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including federal holidays).

Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling 703–292–7556.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to 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 should be addressed to the points of contact in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section.


OMB Number: 3145–0141.