Title: Construction Records for Blasting Operations (29 CFR 1926.900(k)(3)(I).

OMB Number: 1218–0new (formerly 1218–0210) (extension).

Frequency: On occasion.

Affected Public: Business or other forprofit.

Number of Respondents: 3,000. Estimated Time Per Respondent: 8 hours, once per 160 work sites.

Total Burden Hours: 1,280. Total Annualized capital/startup

costs: 0.

Total annual costs (operating/ maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$240.000.

Description: The construction standard on blasting operations requires employers to post warning signs or use other alternative means to prevent premature detonation of electric blasting caps and explosives attached to them by mobile radio transmitters. A written description of the alternative means (measures) to be taken must be prepared.

Theresa M. O'Malley,

Departmental Clearance Officer. [FR Doc. 97–26302 Filed 10–2–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4510–26–M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration

Wage and Hour Division

Minimum Wages for Federal and Federally Assisted Construction; General Wage Determination Decisions

General wage determination decisions of the Secretary of Labor are issued in accordance with applicable law and are based on the information obtained by the Department of Labor from its study of local wage conditions and data made available from other sources. They specify the basic hourly wage rates and fringe benefits which are determined to be prevailing for the described classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction projects of a similar character and in the localities specified therein.

The determinations in these decisions of prevailing rates and fringe benefits have been made in accordance with 29 CFR part 1, by authority of the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act of March 3, 1931, as amended (46 Stat. 1494, as amended, 40 U.S.C. 276a) and of other Federal statutes referred to in 29 CFR part 1, Appendix, as well as such additional statutes as may from time to time be enacted containing provisions for the payment of wages determined to be prevailing by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act. The prevailing rates and fringe benefits determined in these decisions shall, in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing statutes, constitute the minimum wages payable on Federal and federally assisted construction projects to laborers and mechanics of the specified classes engaged on contract work of the character and in the localities described therein.

Good cause is hereby found for not utilizing notice and public comment procedure thereon prior to the issuance of these determinations as prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 553 and not providing for delay in the effective date as prescribed in that section, because the necessity to issue current construction industry wage determinations frequently and in large volume causes procedures to be impractical and contrary to the public interest.

General wage determination decisions, and modifications and supersedes decisions thereto, contain no expiration dates and are effective from their date of notice in the Federal **Register**, or on the date written notice is received by the agency, whichever is earlier. These decision are to be used in accordance with the provisions of 29 CFR parts 1 and 5. Accordingly, the applicable decision, together with any modifications issued, must be made a part of every contract for performance of the described work within the geographic area indicated as required by an applicable Federal prevailing wage law and 29 CFR part 5. The wage rates and fringe benefits, notice of which is published herein, and which are contained in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under The Davis-Bacon And Related Acts," shall be the minimum paid by contractors and subcontractors to laborers and mechanics.

Any person, organization, or governmental agency having an interest in the rates determined as prevailing is encouraged to submit wage rate and fringe benefit information for consideration by the Department. Further information and selfexplanatory forms for the purpose of submitting this data may be obtained by writing to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division, Division of Wage Determinations, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room S–3014, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Modifications to General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of decisions listed in the Government Printing Office document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts" being modified are listed by Volume and State. Dates of publication in the **Federal Register** are in parentheses following the decisions being modified.

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General Wage Determination Publication

General wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts, including those noted above, may be found in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under The Davis-Bacon and Related Acts". This publication is available at each of the 50 Regional Government Depository Libraries and many of the 1,400 Government Depository Libraries across the county.

The general wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts are available electronically by subscription to the FedWorld Bulletin Board System of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) of the U.S. Department of Commerce at (703) 487–4630.

Hard-copy subscriptions may be purchased from: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (202) 512–1800.

When ordering hard-copy subscription(s), be sure to specify the State(s) of interest, since subscriptions may be ordered for any or all of the seven separate volumes, arranged by State. Subscriptions include an annual edition (issued in January or February) which includes all current general wage determinations for the States covered by each volume. Throughout the remainder of the year, regular weekly updates are distributed to subscribers.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 26th day of September 1997.

Margaret Washington,

Acting Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

[FR Doc. 97–26002 Filed 10–2–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4510–27–M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Petitions for Modification

The following parties have filed petitions to modify the application of mandatory safety standards under section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

1. McElroy Coal Company

[Docket No. M-97-101-C]

McElroy Coal Company, Consol Plaza, 1800 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15241-1421 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.312(c) to its McElroy Mine (I.D. No. 46–01437) located in Marshall County, West Virginia. The petitioner requests a modification of the mandatory safety standard to permit the testing of the automatic fan signal device without stopping the fan. The petitioner proposes to test the automatic fan signal device at least every 31 days by manually operating a valve near the fan pressure recording chart reducing the pressure on the water gauge to cause the activation of the fan signal. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

2. Mark P. Shingara Coal

[Docket No. M-97-102-C]

Mark P. Shingara Coal, R.D. #3, Box 79E, Sunbury, Pennsylvania 17801 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.335 (construction of seals) to its No. 4 Vein Slope (I.D. No. 36-08527) located in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. The petitioner requests a modification of the standard to permit alternative methods of seal construction using wooden materials of moderate size and weight due to the difficulty in accessing previously driven headings and breasts containing inaccessible abandoned workings; to accept a design criteria in the 10 psi range; and to permit the water trap to be installed in the gangway seal and sampling tube in the monkey seal for seals installed in pairs. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

3. Mark P. Shingara Coal

[Docket No. M-97-103-C]

Mark P. Shingara Coal, R.D. #3, Box 79E, Sunbury, Pennsylvania 17801 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.360 (preshift examination) to its No. 4 Vein Slope (I.D. No. 36-08527) located in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. The petitioner proposes to visually examine each seal for physical damage from the slope gunboat during the preshift examination after an air quality reading is taken inby the intake portal and to test for the quantity and quality of air at the intake air split locations off the slope in the gangway portion of the working section. The petitioner