

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 decisions 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 self-explanatory 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.

##### *Volume I*

None

##### *Volume II*

None

##### *Volume III*

None

##### *Volume IV*

Illinois

IL970019 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Michigan

MI970063 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Minnesota

MN970007 (Feb. 14, 1997)

MN970008 (Feb. 14, 1997)

MN970058 (Feb. 14, 1997)

MN970059 (Feb. 14, 1997)

##### *Volume V*

Texas

TX970085 (Feb. 14, 1997)

##### *Volume VI*

None

##### *Volume VII*

None

#### **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 country.

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 14th day of November 1997.

**Margaret Washington,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.*

[FR Doc. 97-30339 Filed 11-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

## **DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

### **Occupational Safety and Health Administration**

[Docket No. ICR 97-46]

#### **Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Hazard Communication**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently the Occupational Safety and Health

Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection request for the Hazard Communication Standard 29 CFR 1910.1200; 1915; 1917; 1918; 1926; 1928. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the employee listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

The Department of Labor 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.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before January 20, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments are to be submitted to the Docket Office, Docket No. ICR-97-46, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20210, telephone (202) 219-7894. Written comments limited to 10 pages or less in length may also be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 219-5046.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Todd R. Owen, Directorate of Health Standards Programs, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3718, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington D.C. 20210. Telephone: (202) 219-7075, extension 109. Copies of the referenced information collection request are available for inspection and copying in the Docket Office and will be mailed to persons who request copies by telephoning Todd R. Owen (202) 219-7075 extension 109 or Barbara Bielaski on 219-8076, extension 142. For electronic copies of the Hazard Communication Information Collection Request, contact the Labor News Bulletin Board (202) 219-4784; or

OSHA's WebPage on Internet at <http://www.osha.gov/> and click on standards.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

The Hazard Communication Standard and its information collection requirements are designed to ensure that the hazards of all chemicals produced or imported are evaluated and that information concerning their hazards is transmitted to employees and downstream employers. The standard requires chemical manufacturers and importers to evaluate chemicals they produce or import to determine if they are hazardous; for those chemicals determined to be hazardous, material safety data sheets and warning labels must be developed. Employers are required to establish hazard communication program, to transmit information on the hazards of chemicals to their employees by means of labels on containers, material safety data sheets and training programs. Implementation of these collection of information requirements will ensure all employees have the "right-to-know" the hazards and identities of the chemicals they work with and will reduce the incidence of chemically-related occupational illnesses and injuries.

##### II. Current Actions

This notice requests an extension of the current OMB approval of the paperwork requirements in the Hazard Communication Standard. Extension is necessary to ensure that employees continue to receive information about hazardous and chemicals they are exposed to when working, as well as what protective measures are available to prevent adverse effects from occurring.

*Type of review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

*Title:* Hazard Communication.

*OMB Number:* 1218-0072.

*Agency Number:* Docket Number ICR-97-46.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit, Federal government and State, Local or Tribal governments.

*Total Respondents:* 5,041,918.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Total Responses:* 74,679,540.

*Average Time per Response:* Time per response ranges from 12 seconds to affix labels to in-house containers containing hazardous chemicals to 5 hours to develop a hazard communication program.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 7,301,762.

*Estimated Capital, Operational/Maintenance Burden Cost:* \$0.

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

Dated: November 17, 1997.

**Adam M. Finkel,**

*Director, Directorate of Health Standards Programs.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

##### Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. NRTL-1-97]

##### Applied Research Laboratories, Inc., Recognition as a NRTL

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration; Labor.

**ACTIONS:** Notice of recognition as a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the Agency's final decision on the application of Applied Research Laboratories, Inc. for recognition as a NRTL under 29 CFR 1910.7.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This recognition will become effective on November 21, 1997 and will be valid for a period of five years from that date, until November 21, 2002, unless terminated prior to that date, in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.7.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bernard Pasquet, Office of Variance Determination, NRTL Recognition Program, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N3653, Washington, D.C. 20210, or phone (202) 219-7056.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Notice of Final Decision

Notice is hereby given that Applied Research Laboratories, Inc. (ARL), which made application pursuant to 29 CFR 1910.7, has been recognized as a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory for the equipment or materials, and the program listed below.

The address of the laboratory covered by this recognition is: Applied Research Laboratories, Inc., 5371 NW 161st Street, Miami, Florida 33014.

##### Background

Applied Research Laboratories, Inc. (ARL), according to the applicant, was founded in 1949, and is a Florida-registered engineering corporation, with