

and will include this summary in the request to OMB to extend the approval of the information collection requirement contained in the above provisions.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved information collection requirement.

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Title: Shipyard Certification Records (29 CFR 1915.113(b)(1) and 1915.172(d)).

OMB Number: 1218-0220.

Affected Public: Business or other-for-profit; Federal government, state, local or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 900.

Frequency: Varies (on occasion, quarterly, annually).

Average Time per Response: Varies for 3 minutes (0.05 hours) to 20 minutes (0.33 hour).

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 4,461.

III. Authority and Signature

Charles N. Jeffress, 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), Secretary of Labor's Order No. 6-96 (62 FR 111), and 29 CFR part 911.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 4th day of August 1999.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary of Labor.

[FR Doc. 99-20620 Filed 8-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-99-12]

Hazard Communication Standard; 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: Notice of an opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: OSHA solicits comments concerning the extension of the information collection requirements contained in the standard on Hazard Communication (29 CFR 1910.1200; 1915; 1917; 1918; 1926; 1928).

Request for Comment

The Agency is particularly interested in comments on the following issues:

- Whether the information collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency's functions, including whether the information is useful;

- The accuracy of the Agency'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, electronic, mechanical, and other technological information and transmission collection techniques.

DATES: Submit written comments on or before October 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Docket Office, Docket No. ICR-99-12, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-2350. Commenters may transmit written comments 10 pages or less in length by facsimile to (202) 693-1648.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Todd R. Owen, Directorate of Policy, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3627, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-2444. A copy of the Agency's Information Collection Request (ICR) supporting the need for the information collection requirements in the Hazard Communication Standard is available for inspection and copying in the Docket Office, or mailed on request by telephoning Todd R. Owen or Barbara Bielaski at (202) 693-2444. For electronic copies of the ICR on Hazard Communication, contact OSHA on the Internet at <http://www.osha-slc.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

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 continuing information collection requirements in accordance 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 correct.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the Act) 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.) In this regard, the information collection requirements in the Hazard Communication Standard ensures that employers and employees know about work hazards and how to protect themselves; this should help to reduce the incidence of chemical source illness and injury.

II. Proposed Actions

OSHA proposes to extend the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the collections of information, paperwork, contained in the Hazard Communication Standard 29 CFR 1910.1200; 1915; 1917; 1918; 1926; 1928.

The Hazard Communication Standard's collection of information 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 a 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 illness and injuries.

OSHA will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice and will include this summary in the request of OMB to extend the approval of the information collection requirements contained in the Hazard Communication Standard.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved information collection requirements.

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Title: Hazard Communication Standard.

OMB Number: 1218-0072.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Federal government; state, local or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 5,041,918.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Average Time per response: Time for response ranges from approximately 10 minutes for establishments to obtain and maintain material safety data sheets to 8 hours for manufacturers or importers to conduct a hazard determination.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 7,301,762.

III. Authority and Signature

Charles N. Jeffress, 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), Secretary of Labor's Order No. 6-96 (62 FR 111), and 29 CFR part 1911.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 4th day of August 1999.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary of Labor.

[FR Doc. 99-20669 Filed 8-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

[Application No. D-10244, et al.]

Proposed Exemptions; Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MM)

AGENCY: Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice of proposed exemptions.

SUMMARY: This document contains notices of pendency before the Department of Labor (the Department) of proposed exemptions from certain of the prohibited transaction restrictions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (the Act) and/or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code).

Written Comments and Hearing Requests

Unless otherwise stated in the Notice of Proposed Exemption, all interested persons are invited to submit written comments, and with respect to exemptions involving the fiduciary prohibitions of section 406(b) of the Act, requests for hearing within 45 days from the date of publication of this **Federal Register** Notice. Comments and requests for a hearing should state: (1) The name, address, and telephone number of the person making the comment or request, and (2) the nature of the person's

interest in the exemption and the manner in which the person would be adversely affected by the exemption. A request for a hearing must also state the issues to be addressed and include a general description of the evidence to be presented at the hearing.

ADDRESSES: All written comments and request for a hearing (at least three copies) should be sent to the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Office of Exemption Determinations, Room N-5649, US Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. Attention: Application No. stated in each Notice of Proposed Exemption. The applications for exemption and the comments received will be available for public inspection in the Public Documents Room of Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, US Department of Labor, Room N-5507, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210.

Notice to Interested Persons

Notice of the proposed exemptions will be provided to all interested persons in the manner agreed upon by the applicant and the Department within 15 days of the date of publication in the **Federal Register**. Such notice shall include a copy of the notice of proposed exemption as published in the **Federal Register** and shall inform interested persons of their right to comment and to request a hearing (where appropriate).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed exemptions were requested in applications filed pursuant to section 408(a) of the Act and/or section 4975(c)(2) of the Code, and in accordance with procedures set forth in 29 CFR Part 2570, Subpart B (55 FR 32836, 32847, August 10, 1990). Effective December 31, 1978, section 102 of Reorganization Plan No. 4 of 1978 (43 FR 47713, October 17, 1978) transferred the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to issue exemptions of the type requested to the Secretary of Labor. Therefore, these notices of proposed exemption are issued solely by the Department.

The applications contain representations with regard to the proposed exemptions which are summarized below. Interested persons are referred to the applications on file with the Department for a complete statement of the facts and representations.

Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MM) Located in Springfield, Massachusetts

[Application No. D-10244]

Proposed Exemption

The Department is considering granting an exemption under the authority of section 408(a) of the Act and section 4975(c)(2) of the Code and in accordance with the procedures set forth in 29 CFR Part 2570, Subpart B (55 FR 32836, 32847, August 10, 1990).

Section I. Covered Transactions

If the exemption is granted, the restrictions of sections 406(a), 406(b)(1) and (b)(2) and 407(a) of the Act and the sanctions resulting from the application of section 4975 of the Code, by reason of section 4975(c)(1)(A) through (E) of the Code, shall not apply to: the sale and/or exchange by MM of a partial or complete interest in certain properties (the Properties) from its general investment account assets to one or more separate investment accounts, for which MM shall receive as consideration cash and/or a corresponding interest in such separate account or separate accounts (the Separate Account Transaction), provided the conditions set forth in section II are satisfied.

Section II. Conditions

(A) The sale and exchange of the Properties is a one-time transaction with respect to each separate account of MM which will be established for the Properties; i.e., all Properties transferred in that transaction will be conveyed at the same time, and no further properties will be transferred from MM to such separate account;

(B) In no event shall MM provide any financing with respect to any sale or exchange transaction which is the subject of the exemption proposed herein;

(C) Before the subject transaction is consummated, (i) An independent appraisal firm will have valued each Property to be transferred by MM to one or more separate accounts; (ii) the value of each Property so appraised will be confirmed by the appraiser as of a date not more than two weeks prior to the issuance of interests to third party investors in the separate accounts, and if a material change has occurred the appraiser will revise its appraisal to reflect that new value; (iii) an independent fiduciary for each employee benefit plan subject to the Act (collectively, the Plans) will, prior to agreeing to invest in the separate account, be provided with all information regarding the Properties to