

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* All persons applying for or holding a license to manufacture, produce, transfer, receive, acquire, own, possess, or use radioactive byproduct material.

5. *The number of annual respondents:* 21,583 (4,678 NRC licensee and 16,905 Agreement State licensees).

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 199,389 (NRC licensees 44,613 hours (19,955 reporting + 24,658 recordkeeping) and Agreement State licensees 154,776 hours (67,439 reporting + 87,337 recordkeeping)).

7. *Abstract:* 10 CFR part 30 establishes requirements that are applicable to all persons in the United States governing domestic licensing of radioactive byproduct material. The application, reporting and recordkeeping requirements are necessary to permit the NRC to make a determination whether the possession, use, and transfer of byproduct material is in conformance with the Commission's regulations for protection of the public health and safety.

Submit, by September 17, 2002, comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?
2. Is the burden estimate accurate?
3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?
4. How can the burden of the information collection be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

A copy of the draft supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/doc-comment/omb/index.html>). The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the NRC Clearance Officer, Brenda Jo. Shelton, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, T-6 E 6, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by telephone at (301) 415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at INFOCOLLECTS@NRC.GOV.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15th day of July 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-18241 Filed 7-18-02; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectives, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

ACTION: Draft notice for comment.

SUMMARY: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued government wide guidelines (OMB Guidelines) as required by Section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Pub. L. 106-554; H.R. 5658) to ensure and maximize the quality of information disseminated by Federal agencies. The OMB Guidelines were published on September 28, 2001, (66 FR 49718) and on January 3, 2002, (67 FR 369) and reprinted in their entirety on February 22, 2002, (67 FR 8452): Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectively, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies. Each Federal agency is required to issue its own set of guidelines to comply with Section 515 requirements.

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) is making its draft information guidelines available for public comment both in the **Federal Register** and on its Web site at www.nwtrb.gov. The Board welcomes public comment on the guidelines. Please send comments by e-mail to info@nwtrb.gov. or in writing to Joyce M. Dory, Director of Administration; U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 1300; Arlington, VA 22201.

Comments may be submitted on the draft NWTRB guidelines or on the proposed complaint and review process for addressing public requests for correcting such information. When commenting, please bear in mind that the purpose of the complaint and review process is to deal with information quality, not to resolve underlying substantive policy or legal issues or factual disputes.

Comments received will be reviewed and may be included in the Board's request to OMB for approval of final

NWTRB guidelines. To be considered for inclusion in the final guidelines, comments must be received by July 26, 2002.

Nothing in the guidelines set forth in this notice is intended to confer any legal right on any individual. The Board's predissemination review under these guidelines applies to information first disseminated by the Board on or after October 1, 2002.

Draft Guidelines for Disseminating Information

Board Mandate

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board was established by Public Law 100-203, Part E, to "evaluate the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the Secretary [of Energy] after the date of the enactment of the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987, including: (1) [Yucca Mountain] site characterization activities; and (2) activities relating to the packaging or transporting of high-level radioactive waste or spent nuclear fuel."

To carry out its mandate, the Board strives for a high standard of quality in reviewing the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) technical and scientific activities. The Board holds open meetings, routinely schedules time for public comment at its meetings, and actively solicits the opinions of experts in fields allied with topics under review.

The Board also makes every effort to ensure the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information that it disseminates. In developing these guidelines, the Board has followed the requirements set out by the OMB.

Information Disseminated by the Board

The Board was charged by Congress with providing technical and scientific advice to Congress and the Secretary of Energy based on the expert opinion of Board members. In accordance with its congressional mandate, the Board performs an evaluation of the technical and scientific validity of factual information provided by the DOE. The Board does not originate technical and scientific research or data. Consequently, information disseminated by the Board is almost without exception based on Board-member opinion. Like all expert judgments, Board opinions have a subjective element. Thus, they are not easily subjected to the tests of objectivity, reproducibility, and transparency described in the OMB guidelines.

The Board has developed the following proposed guidelines for the

information the Board disseminates. The guidelines have three elements: First, to the extent that Board opinions derive directly from specific technical analyses, those analyses are revealed. Second, the Board makes clear the logic and rationale for its expert opinions. Third, the Board makes every effort to ensure that the information on which it bases its opinions is credible.

Technical analyses. The Board includes a discussion of technical analyses that form the basis of its expert opinions in its twice-yearly reports to Congress and the Secretary of Energy. In addition, such technical analyses are referenced in Board correspondence with the DOE and in correspondence with and testimony before Congress.

Logic and rationale. To make the logic and rationale that support its opinions clear, the Board makes every effort to ensure that its findings and recommendations and the technical analysis on which they are based are understandable, relevant, and widely accessible.

Credible information. To help ensure that its opinions are based on credible information, the Board stays informed on progress in the program by holding meetings several times a year, by being updated on current scientific and technical research, by conducting field observations, and by gathering information from parties to the process and experts in related fields. However, the quality of information derived from external sources cannot be guaranteed by the Board.

From time to time, the Board retains technical experts to provide their opinions on specific technical and scientific issues related to the Board's review of the DOE program. Expert opinion generated or disseminated by these expert consultants is not covered under the guidelines. When the views of expert consultants are disseminated, the Board includes an appropriate disclaimer in the document, for example: "The views in this document are those of the consultant and are not necessarily those of the Board."

Dissemination of Information

The Board strives for a high degree of transparency in its evaluation of the DOE program. Consequently, the Board ensures that all Board documents are widely disseminated and available to other organizations, to members of Congress, and to members of the public. The Board mails its twice-yearly reports and its meeting notice directly to its extensive mailing list. The Board makes all its reports, correspondence, congressional testimony, meeting transcripts, and other documents

available on its Web site and on request. Most of these documents can be downloaded and are accessible to those who use assistive technology for reading online material.

Quality Management Principles

In reviewing information for dissemination, the Board complies with statutory requirements for protecting certain information. The statutory requirements include the Privacy Act of 1974, the Freedom of Information Act, and the computer security provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Board strives to ensure that the information in Board documents is unbiased, relevant, accurate, and clear by using the following procedures.

The Board reviews documents for adherence to quality standards as part of its internal review process. Board members and Board staff perform multiple reviews of Board reports, Board correspondence, Board congressional testimony, and other documents. All Board documents are reviewed for consistency and clarity. Text is edited to ensure that thoughts and arguments flow logically and are clear, concise, easy to read, and grammatically correct. Tables and charts are edited to ensure that they clearly and accurately illustrate and support points made in the text. Sound statistical and analytical techniques are used in developing Board documents.

Complaint and Review Procedures

Corrections of Information Covered by These Guidelines

Board guidelines include the following procedures for members of the public to seek and obtain appropriate correction of information maintained and disseminated by the NWTRB after October 1, 2002. As required by OMB Guidelines, the NWTRB will report annually to the director of the OMB on the number and disposition of such requests received.

Use a copy of the form provided on the Board's Web site or available from the Board's office. Provide the information requested on the form and submit it to info@nwtrb.gov or to U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; Section 515 Compliance; 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 1300; Arlington, VA 22201.

The NWTRB may choose not to respond to requests based on claims deemed frivolous or unlikely to have substantial future effect. A decision on whether and how to correct the information will be made within 90 days of receipt, and the requester will be

notified of the decision by mail, telephone, e-mail, or fax.

If the claim is denied, the requester may ask within 30 days of the date of the decision for reconsideration of the Board's decision. Such requests must be made by e-mail (info@nwtrb.gov) or in writing (U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; Director of Administration; 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 1300; Arlington, VA 22201). The NWTRB will then reconsider its decision. Reconsiderations will be made by the Director of Administration or delegate. The claimant will be notified of the final decision within six weeks.

Definitions

Quality: An encompassing term comprising utility, objectivity, and integrity, as defined below.

Utility: The usefulness of the information to its intended users.

Objectivity: A focus on ensuring that information is accurate, reliable, and unbiased, and that information products are presented in an accurate, clear, complete, and unbiased manner.

Integrity: The security of information from unauthorized access or revision to ensure that the information is not compromised through corruption or falsification.

Information: Any communication or representation of knowledge, such as facts or data, in any form. This does not include individual Board member or staff opinions, where the agency makes it clear that what is being offered is someone's opinion rather than fact or the Board's view.

Dissemination: Agency-instituted or agency-sponsored distribution of information to the public. Dissemination under these guidelines does not include distributions limited to government employees or agency contractors or grantees; interagency or intraagency use or sharing of government information; and responses to requests for agency records under the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, or other similar law.

Influential: The Board can reasonably determine that dissemination of the information will have or does have a clear and substantial effect on important public policies.

Reproducibility: The information is capable of being substantially reproduced, subject to an acceptable degree of imprecision.

Information not covered by the OMB or Board guidelines includes the following:

- Archival records
- Transcripts of meetings
- Correspondence with an individual

- Press releases
- Reports containing a disclaimer.

Dated: July 12, 2001.

Karyn Severson,

Director, External Affairs, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

[FR Doc. 02-18188 Filed 7-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-AM-M

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Revision of SF-15

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for revision of an expiring information collection form, Standard Form 15 (SF-15). SF 15, *Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference*, is used by OPM examining offices and agency appointing officials to adjudicate individuals' claims for veterans' preference in accordance with the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944.

According to the General Services Administration, 45,000 forms were used last year. Each form requires approximately 10 minutes to complete. The annual estimated burden is 7,500 hours.

Comments are particularly invited on: whether this information is necessary for OPM to properly perform its functions; whether the information will have practical utility; whether OPM's estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate and based on valid assumptions and methodology; and ways in which OPM can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey at mbtoomey@opm.gov or fax to (202) 418-3251. Please be sure to include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 60 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver written comments to: Ellen Tunstall, Assistant Director for Employment Policy, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E

Street, NW., Room 6500, Washington, DC 20415.

Office of Personnel Management.

Kay Coles James,

Director.

[FR Doc. 02-18117 Filed 7-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee; Open Committee Meetings

According to the provisions of section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given that meetings of the Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee will be held on—
Thursday, July 25, 2002
Thursday, August 8, 2002
Thursday, September 12, 2002
Thursday, October 10, 2002

The meeting will start at 10 a.m. and will be held in Room 5A06A, Office of Personnel Management Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee is composed of a Chair, five representatives from labor unions holding exclusive bargaining rights for Federal blue-collar employees, and five representatives from Federal agencies. Entitlement to membership on the Committee is provided for in 5 U.S.C. 5347.

The Committee's primary responsibility is to review the Prevailing Rate System and other matters pertinent to establishing prevailing rates under subchapter IV, chapter 53, 5 U.S.C., as amended, and from time to time advise the Office of Personnel Management.

This scheduled meeting will start in open session with both labor and management representatives attending. During the meeting either the labor members or the management members may caucus separately with the Chair to devise strategy and formulate positions. Premature disclosure of the matters discussed in these caucuses would unacceptably impair the ability of the Committee to reach a consensus on the matters being considered and would disrupt substantially the disposition of its business. Therefore, these caucuses will be closed to the public because of a determination made by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management under the provisions of section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and 5 U.S.C.

552b(c)(9)(B). These caucuses may, depending on the issues involved, constitute a substantial portion of a meeting.

Annually, the Chair compiles a report of pay issues discussed and concluded recommendations. These reports are available to the public, upon written request to the Committee's Secretary.

The public is invited to submit material in writing to the Chair on Federal Wage System pay matters felt to be deserving of the Committee's attention. Additional information on this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Committee's Secretary, Office of Personnel Management, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee, Room 5538, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415, (202) 606-1500.

Dated: June 6, 2002.

Mary M. Rose,

Chairperson, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 02-18118 Filed 7-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-49-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

Summary of Proposal(s)

- (1) *Collection title:* Statement of Authority.
- (2) *Form(s) submitted:* SI-10.
- (3) *OMB Number:* 3220-0034.
- (4) *Expiration date of current OMB clearance:* 11/30/2002.
- (5) *Type of request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.
- (6) *Respondents:* Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit.
- (7) *Estimated annual number of respondents:* 400.
- (8) *Total annual responses:* 400.
- (9) *Total annual reporting hours:* 40.
- (10) *Collection description:* Under 20

CFR 355.2, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) accepts claims for sickness benefits by other than the sick or injured employees, provided the RRB has the information needed to satisfy itself that the delegation should be made.

Additional Information or Comments: Copies of the forms and supporting documents can be obtained from Chuck Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer (312-751-3363).

Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement