



BILLING CODE: 4510-CK-P

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Application for Self-Insurance Under the Black Lung Benefits Act**

**Office of the Secretary**

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) sponsored information collection request (ICR) proposal titled, "Application for Self-Insurance Under the Black Lung Benefits Act," to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval for use in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995. Public comments on the ICR are invited.

**DATES:** The OMB will consider all written comments that agency receives on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation; including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained free of charge from the RegInfo.gov Web site at [http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref\\_nbr=201901-1240-008](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=201901-1240-008) (this link will only become active on the day following publication of this notice) or by contacting Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or by email at [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

Submit comments about this request by mail to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for DOL-OWCP, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503; by Fax: 202-395-5806 (this is not a toll-free number); or by email: OIRA\_submission@omb.eop.gov. Commenters are encouraged, but not required, to send a courtesy copy of any comments by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor-OASAM, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Attn: Departmental Information Compliance Management Program, Room N1301, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210; or by email: DOL\_PRA\_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or by email at DOL\_PRA\_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This ICR seeks PRA authority for the Application for Self-Insurance Under the Black Lung Benefits Act information collection. This information collection is essential to the mission of OWCP's Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation, which administers the BLBA. The statute grants the Department authority to authorize and regulate coal mine operators who wish to self-insure their BLBA liabilities. This information collection would provide OWCP with sufficient information to determine whether a coal mine operator should be (or continue to be) authorized to self-insure. The information would also allow OWCP to determine the security amount a coal mine operator must deposit to guarantee that it will be able to meet its BLBA liabilities. The Black Lung Benefits Act authorizes this information collection. *See* 30 U.S.C. 933.

This proposed information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless it is approved by the OMB under the PRA and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a valid Control Number. *See* 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6. For additional information, see the related notice published in the *Federal Register* on October 30, 2017.

Interested parties are encouraged to send comments to the OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the address shown in the ADDRESSES section within thirty (30) days of publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB ICR Reference Number 201901-1240-008. The OMB is particularly interested in comments that:

- 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 submission of responses.

*Agency:* DOL-OWCP.

*Title of Collection:* Application for Self-Insurance Under the Black Lung Benefits Act.

*OMB ICR Reference Number:* 201901-1240-008.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector—businesses or other for-profits.

*Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 53.

*Total Estimated Number of Responses:* 318.

*Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:* 283 hours.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$145.

**AUTHORITY:** 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D).

**Michel Smyth,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2019-05475 Filed: 3/21/2019 8:45 am; Publication Date: 3/22/2019]