DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

[31D1S SS08011000 SX064A000 211S180110; S2D2S SS08011000 SX064A000 21XS501520; OMB Control Number 1029-0112]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Requirements for Coal Exploration

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), are proposing to renew an information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on this information collection request (ICR) by mail to the Mark Gehlhar, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1849 C. Street NW, Room 4556-MIB, Washington, DC 20240; or by email to mgehlhar@osmre.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1029-0112 in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact Mark Gehlhar by email at mgehlhar@osmre.gov, or by telephone at 202-208-2716.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing
collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information
collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. It also helps
the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the
requested data in the desired format.

We are soliciting comments on the proposed ICR that is described below.
We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues:
(1) is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the OSMRE; (2) will this
information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of
burden accurate; (4) how might the OSMRE enhance the quality, utility, and
clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the OSMRE minimize
the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of
information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public
record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to
approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address,
or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware
that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may
be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to
withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot
guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: OSMRE and State regulatory authorities use the information
collected under 30 CFR Part 772 to keep track of coal exploration activities,
evaluate the need for an exploration permit, and ensure that exploration activities
comply with the environmental protection and reclamation requirements of 30

Title of Collection: Requirements for coal exploration.
OMB Control Number: 1029-0112.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: State governments and mine permittees.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 300.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 600.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: Varies from 30 minutes to 50 hours, depending on activity.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 1,600.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: One time.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: $300.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq).

Mark J. Gehlhar,
Information Collection Clearance Officer,
Division of Regulatory Support.