

to jtrelease@osmre.gov. Please reference 1029-0036 in your correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR part 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)]. OSM has submitted a request to OMB to renew its approval of the collection of information contained in 30 CFR Part 780—Surface Mining Permit Applications—Minimum Requirements for Reclamation and Operation Plans. OSM is requesting a 3-year term of approval for each information collection activity.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection of information is 1029-0036.

As required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), a **Federal Register** notice soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on July 1, 2008 (73 FR 37486). No comments were received. This notice provides the public with an additional 30 days in which to comment on the following information collection activities:

Title: 30 CFR Part 780—Surface Mining Permit Applications—Minimum Requirements for Reclamation and Operation Plan.

OMB Control Number: 1029-0036.

SUMMARY: Sections 507(b), 508(a), 510(b), 515(b) and (d), and 522 of Public Law 95-87 require applicants to submit operations and reclamation plans for coal mining activities. Information collection is needed to determine whether the plans will achieve the reclamation and environmental protections pursuant to the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. Without this information, Federal and State regulatory authorities cannot review and approve permit application requests.

Bureau Form Number: None.

Frequency of Collection: Once.

Description of Respondents:

Applicants for surface coal mine permits on Federal lands and State regulatory authorities.

Total Annual Respondents: 225 applicants and 221 State responses.

Total Annual Burden Hours for Applicants: 281,706.

Total Annual Burden Hours for State Regulatory Authorities: 78,457.

Total Annual Burden Hours for All Respondents: 360,163.

Total Annual Burden Costs for All Respondents: \$1,992,395.

Send comments on the need for the collections of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collections; and ways to minimize the information collection burdens on respondents, such as use of automated means of collections of the information, to the individual listed in **ADDRESSES**. Please refer to OMB control number 1029-0036 in all correspondence.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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.

Dated: October 2, 2008.

John A. Trelease,

Acting Chief, Division of Regulatory Support.

[FR Doc. E8-23794 Filed 10-8-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-05-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for 1029-0059

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing its intention to request renewed authority to collect information for: OSM grant forms—OSM-47 (Budget Information Report), OSM-49 (Budget Information and Financial Reporting) and OSM-51 (Performance and Program narrative); 30 CFR part 735 (Grants for Program Development and Administration and Enforcement); and 30 CFR part 886 (State and Tribal Reclamation Grants).

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by December 8, 2008, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface

Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave, NW., Room 202-SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to jtrelease@osmre.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To receive a copy of the information collection request, contact John A. Trelease, at (202) 208-2783 or electronically at jtrelease@osmre.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR part 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)]. This notice identifies information collections that OSM will be submitting to OMB for approval. These collections are contained in OSM grant forms—OSM-47 (Budget Information Report), OSM-49 (Budget Information and Financial Reporting) and OSM-51 (Performance and Program narrative); 30 CFR part 735 (Grants for Program Development and Administration and Enforcement); and 30 CFR part 886 (State and Tribal Reclamation Grants). OSM will request a 3-year term of approval for each information collection activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. A summary of the public comments will accompany OSM's submission of the information collection request to OMB.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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.

The following information is provided for the information collection: (1) Title of the information collection; (2) OMB control number; (3) summary of the information collection activity; and (4) frequency of collection, description of the respondents, estimated total annual responses, and the total annual

reporting and recordkeeping burden for the collection of information.

Title: Budget information, financial reporting, and performance reporting forms.

OMB Control Number: 1029-0059.

Summary: State and Tribal reclamation and regulatory authorities are requested to provide specific budget and program information as part of the grant application and reporting processes authorized by the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.

Bureau Form Numbers: OSM-47, OSM-49 and OSM-51.

Frequency of Collection: Semi-annually and annually.

Description of Respondents: State and Tribal regulatory and reclamation authorities.

Total Annual Responses: 132.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 680 hours.

Dated: October 2, 2008.

John A. Trelease,

Acting Chief, Division of Regulatory Support.
[FR Doc. E8-23797 Filed 10-8-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-05-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Proposed Information Collection for Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) Initiative Evaluation; Comment Request

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (the Department), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance 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) [44 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 ETA is soliciting comments on a new data collection for the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) Initiative Evaluation.

A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained

by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice or by accessing: <http://www.doleta.gov/OMBControlNumber.cfm>.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee's section below on or December 8, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Employment and Training Administration, Room N-5641, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210, Attention: Eileen Pederson, Telephone number: 202-693-3647 (this is not a toll-free number), Fax number: 202-693-2766. e-mail: Pederson.eileen@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In February 2006, under authority of Section 414 of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998, the ETA awarded grants to 13 regions across the United States to support community efforts to link their varied knowledge resources with their business and innovation assets, to ensure that their workforces have the skill requirements and knowledge to work effectively in new and emerging industries. At the same time that these grants were awarded, ETA selected another 13 regions to receive \$100,000 to support their participation in peer-to-peer grantee conferences and other training opportunities. In early 2007, ETA increased the funds awarded to the second group of regions, at which time they became known as the Generation II regions. Finally, in June 2007, ETA awarded grants to 13 more regions, known as the Generation III regions.

The WIRED Initiative focuses on labor market areas that are comprised of multiple jurisdictions within states or across state borders. It supports innovative approaches for workforce development, training and education that go beyond traditional strategies for preparing workers to compete and succeed both within the United States and globally. Through the initiative, WIRED regions have a unique opportunity to design and implement strategic approaches for coordinating regional economic development, job growth and talent development. For the grant awards, ETA selected regions that demonstrated the presence of labor market elements (unemployment, low-wages, low levels of new job creation) and economic conditions (such as industries that are declining or industries targeted for growth) that drive the need for transformation. In addition, each grant recipient described how the

region will: Implement new strategic efforts designed to integrate workforce, economic development and education systems; promote innovation in addressing challenges; and utilize and build upon existing structures, resources, and legislatively-funded programs. Finally, each region outlined the presence of a strategic partnership that is representative of the entire economic region and is comprised of a strong team of leaders which will lead the regional transformation.

This data collection covers qualitative information to be obtained through a survey of key partners and stakeholders in these regional transformation efforts. The WIRED survey will gather information about the nature of regional leaders and their organizations' roles and relationships in the evolving collaborative partnerships. It will provide information about their efforts to achieve regional transformation of workforce development, economic development and related education systems during the period of the Initiative.

The second administration of the survey, approximately six months after Federal funding of the initiative ends, will be to collect information about the sustainability of efforts to work collaboratively to achieve regional transformation, to reveal whether these substantial investments successfully inspired continued efforts to promote integration of regional systems to further talent development.

Subsequent to awarding the Generation I grants in early 2006, the ETA has expended considerable effort to promote the importance of collaboration for guiding future talent development, and to encourage creative efforts to initiate and bring new partners into networks created to transform a region, including partners who do not receive direct funding through the WIRED collaborative. Thus, it is anticipated that Generations II and III regional efforts may be affecting entities that are not directly involved in the federally-funded transformation efforts, spearheaded by this initiative. In addition, ETA substantially reduced the amount of funding for Generations II and III, thereby leading many of these regions to partner with entities which also have a vested interest in achieving the long-term regional economic success and stability. A pre-WIRED survey, the screener survey, will first be administered in the Generation II and III regions in order to gather information about how widely disbursed the ongoing efforts are to transform these regions' economic, education and workforce development systems,