

## SUPPORTING STATEMENT

### Mine Rescue Teams; Arrangements for Emergency Medical Assistance; and Arrangements for Transportation for Injured Persons

30 CFR § 49.2 - Availability of mine rescue teams. (Pertains to underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines.)

30 CFR § 49.3 - Alternative mine rescue capability for small and remote mines. (Pertains to underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines.)

30 CFR § 49.4 - Alternative mine rescue capability for special mining conditions. (Pertains to underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines.)

30 CFR § 49.6 - Equipment and maintenance requirements. (Pertains to underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines.)

30 CFR § 49.7 - Physical requirements for mine rescue team. (Pertains to underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines.)

30 CFR § 49.8 - Training for mine rescue teams. (Pertains to underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines.)

30 CFR § 49.9 - Mine emergency notification plan. (Pertains to underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines.)

30 CFR § 75.1713-1(a), (b), and (e) - Arrangements for emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons. (Pertains to underground coal mines.)

30 CFR § 77.1702(a), (b), (e) - Arrangements for emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons. (Pertains to surface coal mines and surface areas of underground coal mines.)

#### **A. JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection.**

Section 115(e) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 required the Secretary of Labor to publish proposed regulations which provide that mine rescue teams be available for rescue and recovery work to each underground mine in the event of an emergency. In addition, the costs of making advance arrangements for such teams are to be borne by the operator of each such mine.

Congress considered the ready availability of mine rescue in the event of an accident to be vital protection for miners. Congress was concerned that too often in the past, rescue efforts at a disaster site have had to await the delayed arrival of skilled mine rescue teams. In responding to Congressional concerns, MSHA promulgated 30 CFR Part 49, Mine Rescue Teams. The regulations set standards related to the availability of mine rescue teams; alternate mine rescue capability for small and remote mines and mines with special mining conditions; inspection and maintenance records of mine rescue equipment and apparatus; physical requirements for mine rescue team members and alternates; and experience and training requirements for team members and alternates.

Title 30, CFR § 49.2 provides that the mine operator of an underground mine establish at least two mine rescue teams to be available at all times that miners are underground, or the operator must enter into an arrangement for mine rescue services which assures that at least two teams are available at all times when miners are underground. Each team shall consist of five members and one alternate fully qualified, trained and equipped for rescue service. In addition, each member shall have been employed in an underground mine for a minimum of 1 year within the past 5 years. This standard also requires that each underground mine operator send the District Manager a statement describing the method of compliance. The statement must disclose whether the operator has independently provided mine rescue teams or entered into an agreement for mine rescue services. The name of the provider and the location of the services shall be included in the statement, a copy of the statement posted at the mine for miners' information, and a copy provided to the miners' representative if a representative has been designated.

With respect to alternative mine rescue capability for small and remote mines and mines with special mining conditions, 30 CFR §§ 49.3 and 49.4 provide that operators of those mines may submit to MSHA for approval alternative plans for assuring mine rescue capability. The intent of these regulations is to establish the best possible rescue response available given the mining conditions unique to each mine. Although small and remote mines are not statistically less hazardous than larger non-remote mines, they are distinguished by their size and location which may effectively limit the operators' ability to establish and equip two full mine rescue teams. A critical element in determining whether a mine is small and remote is the proximity of other underground mines or existing rescue teams and stations. Likewise, it is recognized that certain mining conditions and situations present significantly lower risks of entrapment to underground miners which would justify an alternative to the mine rescue team requirements contained in § 49.2.

Title 30, CFR § 49.3 provides that if an underground mine is small and remote, the operator may submit an application to MSHA for approval for an alternative mine rescue capability. Applications contain the number of miners employed underground on each shift; the distance from the two nearest mine rescue stations; the total underground employment of mines within two hours ground travel time of the operator's mine; the operator's mine fire, ground, and roof control history; the operator's established escape and evacuation plan; an evaluation of the usefulness of additional refuge chambers to supplement those which may exist; the number of miners willing to serve on a mine rescue team; an alternative plan for assuring that a suitable mine rescue capability is provided at all times when miners are underground; and other relevant information.

Title 30, CFR § 49.4 provides that if an underground mine is operating under special mining conditions, the mine operator may submit alternative plans to MSHA for approval as a means of achieving full compliance with the regulation. Applications contain an explanation of the special mining conditions, the number of miners employed underground on each shift, the distance from the two nearest mine rescue stations, the operator's mine fire history, the operator's established escape and evacuation plan, the operator's alternative plan for assuring that a suitable mine rescue capability is provided at all times when miners are underground, and other relevant information.

Title 30, CFR § 49.6 provides a detailed listing of equipment that is to be provided each mine rescue station. Section 49.6(9)(b) states that rescue apparatus and equipment shall be maintained and that a person trained in the use and care of breathing apparatus shall inspect and test the apparatus at least every 30 days and shall certify by signature and date that the inspections and tests were done. The certification and the record of corrective action taken, if any, shall be maintained at the mine rescue station for a period of one year and made available to an authorized representative of the Secretary.

Title 30, CFR § 49.7 requires that each team member and alternate be examined within 60 days of the beginning of the initial training, and annually thereafter by a physician who shall certify the physical fitness of the team member to perform mine rescue and recovery work for prolonged periods under strenuous conditions. The operator shall have MSHA Form 5000-3 on file for each team member certifying medical fitness and signed by the examining physician. These forms shall be kept on file at either the mine or the mine rescue station for a period of one year.

Title 30, CFR § 49.8 requires that prior to serving on a mine rescue team, each member must complete an initial 20-hour course of instruction in the use, care, and maintenance of the type of breathing apparatus which will be used by the mine rescue team. All team members are required to receive 40 hours of refresher training annually which includes: (1) sessions underground at least once each 6 months; (2) wearing and use of the breathing apparatus by team members for a period of at least 2 hours while under oxygen every 2 months; (3) where applicable, the use, care, capabilities, and limitations of auxiliary mine rescue equipment, or a different breathing apparatus; (4) advanced mine rescue training and procedures; and (5) mine map training and ventilation procedures. A record of the training received by each mine rescue team member is required to be on file at the mine rescue station for a period of one year.

Title 30, CFR § 49.9 provides that each mine shall have a mine rescue notification plan outlining the procedures to be followed in notifying the mine rescue teams when there is an emergency. In addition, a copy of the plan shall be posted at the mine and a copy provided for the miners' representative, if applicable.

Title 30, CFR §§ 75.1713-1(a) and (b) and 77.1702(a) and (b) require that mine operators make arrangements with a licensed physician, medical service, medical clinic, or hospital and with an ambulance service to provide 24-hour emergency medical assistance and transportation. Title 30, CFR §§ 75.1713-1 (e) and 77.1702 (e) require that the mine operator post the names, titles, addresses and telephone numbers of all persons or services available for medical assistance and

transportation at the mine.

**2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for new collections, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.**

This information is used by mine operators, miners, and MSHA to formulate an appropriate rescue capability within the guidelines set forth in these standards.

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

No improved information technology has been identified that would reduce the burden, however in order to comply with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act mine operators may maintain records of the mine rescue equipment testing certification, records of inspections and tests, and mine rescue notification plan in whatever method they chose, which may include utilizing computer technology.

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purpose(s) described in Item 2 above.**

Plans are approved according to the individual characteristics of each mine. There is no similar or duplicate information available that could be used.

**5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize burden.**

As stated above, provisions have been made for small and remote mines to submit alternative plans for mine rescue capability, and they will be considered on an individual basis. Also, in certain states, small operators have gained relief through state plan agreements, whereby state maintained mine rescue stations are made available to the mine operator. Although the regulations are not directed to State and local governments, where State plan agreements exist, MSHA does conduct routine inspections of the records of the State maintained mine rescue stations for compliance with the regulations.

Although the information collection burden associated with applications for alternative mine rescue capability under 30 CFR §§ 49.3 and 49.4 is greater than the burden of notification of the method of compliance under § 49.2, the overall economic impact is a reduced cost for small and remote mines or mines with special mining conditions when they are approved for using alternative means of providing mine rescue capabilities. Where those mines utilize state sponsored teams, the mine operator does not bear the recordkeeping burden associated with §§ 49.6 through 49.8 or the costs of training, equipping, and maintaining rescue teams or a rescue station.

**6. Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is**

**conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

Mine operators need only post or submit much of the information once. However, information must be kept current and when changes in circumstances occur, the plan or notice must be updated and posted or resubmitted. In addition, records of annual physical examinations, rescue team initial and annual training, and equipment maintenance must be kept at the rescue station and be available for examination by MSHA for a period of 1 year.

Section 115(e) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 required the Secretary of Labor to publish proposed regulations which provide that mine rescue teams be available for rescue and recovery work to each underground mine in the event of an emergency. In addition, the costs of making advance arrangements for such teams are to be borne by the operator of each such mine.

The frequency of inspections and testing of rescue equipment, physical examinations, training sessions, and associated record keeping requirements are the minimum necessary requirements to ensure the readiness and availability of mine rescue teams.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:**

- ! requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
- ! requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
- ! requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
- ! requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**
- ! in connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;**
- ! requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
- ! that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or**
- ! requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

The collection of information is consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR § 1320.5. Although there is no specific requirement that mine operators maintain the information collection described

above for more than 3 years, an operator must meet all of the mine rescue requirements for as long as the mine is in operation.

**8. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to the comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

**Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and record keeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.**

**Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years -- even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.**

MSHA will publish the proposed information collection requirements in the Federal Register, notifying the public that these information collection requirements are being reviewed in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, and giving interested persons 60 days to submit comments.

**9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

MSHA has made no decision to provide payments or gifts to the respondents. However, many mine operations utilize state sponsored mine rescue teams and mine rescue stations which are partially funded by grants from MSHA. Approximately half of all underground coal mines utilize state sponsored mine rescue teams to meet the Part 49 requirements.

**10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

There is no personal information requiring confidentiality.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

There are no questions of a sensitive nature.

**12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information.**

At the end of FY 99 there were approximately 921 active underground coal mines (847 existing mines and 74 new mines). Of the active mines, 80 maintained one or both of the required rescue teams. Those 80 mines also provided coverage to an additional 293 mines. In addition, approximately 306 mines had arrangements with state sponsored rescue teams and stations, and approximately 242 had arrangements with contractors to provide rescue services. Three mines had approved applications for alternative mine rescue capability under 30 CFR § 49.3.

At the end of FY 99 there were approximately 224 active underground metal and nonmetal mines (204 existing mines and 20 new mines). Of the active mines, 64 maintained one or both of the required rescue teams. The 64 mines also provided coverage to an additional 50 mines. Approximately 60 of the remaining 110 mines were provided rescue services by state sponsored rescue teams and stations and the remaining 50 mines had approved applications for alternative mine rescue capability under 30 CFR §§ 49.3 and 49.4.

### **30 CFR § 49.2**

Under § 49.2, each operator of an underground mine who provides rescue teams under this standard is required to send the MSHA District Manager a statement describing the mine's method of compliance with 30 CFR Part 49. The statement must indicate whether the operator has independently provided mine rescue teams or entered into an agreement for the services of mine rescue teams. The name of the provider and the location of the services shall be included in the statement. A copy of the statement must be posted at the mine for the miners' information. Where a miners' representative has been designated, the operator must also provide the representative with a copy of the statement. The statement need be submitted only once, and revised only when a change to the method of compliance occurs. MSHA estimates that the method of compliance changes at not more than 5% of the mines in any given year.

MSHA estimates that it requires an average of 1 hour to prepare, mail, post, and provide a new or revised statement to the miners' representative. This work is performed by a safety department manager or mine superintendent earning \$52.47 per hour for coal mines and \$45.79 for metal and nonmetal mines (salaries based on 1999 Survey Results from the U.S. Metal & Industrial Mineral Mine Salaries, Wages & Benefits and the U.S. Coal Mine Salaries, Wages and Benefits).

#### Underground Coal Mines

##### Hour Burden

74 new mines x 1 hour per statement	=	74 hours
847 existing mines x 0.05 changes per year x 1 hour per statement	=	<u>42 hours</u>
<b>Total Hour Burden</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>116 hours</b>

##### Hour Burden Cost

116 hours x \$52.47 per hour	=	\$6,087
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#### Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines

Hour Burden

20 new mines x 1 hour per statement	=	20 hours
204 existing mines x 0.05 changes per year x 1 hour per statement	=	<u>10 hours</u>
Total Hour Burden	=	30 hours

Hour Burden Cost

30 hours x \$45.79 per hour	=	\$ 1,374
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**30 CFR §§ 49.3 and 49.4**

Under § 49.3, the operator may provide for an alternative mine rescue capability if an underground mine is small and remote. Under § 49.4, the operator may provide an alternative mine rescue capability if an underground mine is operating under special mining conditions.

Under both standards, the operator is required to submit an application for alternative mine rescue capability to the MSHA District Manager for review and approval. A copy of the operator's application must be posted at the mine. Where a miners' representative has been designated, the operator also must provide the representative with a copy of the application.

Where alternative compliance is approved by MSHA, the operator is required to adopt the alternative plan and post a copy of the approved plan at the mine for the miners' information. Where a miners' representative has been designated, the operator must also provide the representative with a copy of the approved plan.

The mine operator is also required to notify the MSHA District Manager of any changed condition or factor materially affecting information submitted in the application for alternative mine rescue capability.

MSHA estimates that it takes an average of 2 hours to prepare, mail, post, and provide a copy of a new or revised application for alternative mine rescue capability to the miners' representative and to post and provide a copy of the approved plan to the miners' representative. This work is performed by a safety manager or mine superintendent's earning \$52.47 for coal mines and \$45.79 for metal and nonmetal mines per hour).

Underground Coal Mines

There are no underground coal mines eligible to make application under 30 CFR § 49.4. Three existing underground coal mines have approved applications for alternative mine rescue capability under 30 CFR § 49.3. MSHA estimates that each year one new underground coal mine will submit an application under § 49.3 and one existing underground coal mine will submit a revised application under § 49.3.

Hour Burden

2 applications x 2 hours per application	=	4 hours
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Hour Burden Cost

$$4 \text{ hours} \times \$52.47 \text{ per hour} = \$ 210$$

Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines

There are 50 existing underground metal and nonmetal mines that have approved applications for alternative mine rescue capability under 30 CFR §§ 49.3 or 49.4. MSHA estimates that 5% of these mines (3 mines) will submit revised applications under 30 CFR §§ 49.3 or 49.4 each year. MSHA also estimates that 5 new mines will submit applications under 30 CFR §§ 49.3 or 49.4 each year.

Hour Burden

$$8 \text{ applications} \times 2 \text{ hours per application} = 16 \text{ hours}$$

Hour Burden Cost

$$16 \text{ hours} \times \$45.79 \text{ per hour} = \$733$$

**30 CFR § 49.6**

Under § 49.6, a person trained in the use and care of mine rescue equipment must inspect and test the apparatus at intervals not exceeding 30 days and certify by signature and date that the inspections and tests were done. When the inspection indicates that a corrective action is necessary, the corrective action shall be made and the person shall record the corrective action taken. The certification and the record of corrective action must be maintained at the mine rescue station for a period of 1 year and made available on request to an MSHA inspector.

MSHA estimates that it takes an average of 20 minutes (0.33 hour) to inspect, test, and certify each apparatus, and that there are six apparatus per mine rescue team. MSHA further estimates that each apparatus requires corrective action six times a year and that it takes an average of 15 minutes (0.25 hour) to record each corrective action.

MSHA's experience is that rescue team members inspect, maintain, and certify the apparatus and record the corrective actions. Mine rescue teams maintained by mines are made up of miners (average hourly wage of \$27.74 for coal mines and \$19.63 for metal and nonmetal mines) and mine supervisors (average hourly wage of \$52.47 for coal mines and \$45.79 for metal and nonmetal mines). Accordingly, the average hourly wage of a coal mine rescue team member is estimated to be \$40.10 ( $\$27.74 + \$52.47 / 2$ ), and the average hourly wage of a metal or nonmetal mine rescue team member is estimated to be \$32.71 ( $\$19.63 + \$45.79 / 2$ ). For simplicity, MSHA has assumed the same average hourly wage rates for members of mine rescue teams maintained by State agencies and contractors.

Underground Coal Mines

MSHA estimates that there are 80 mines which maintain 86, 6-member teams at 52 mine rescue

stations. There are 38, 6-member teams at 24 mine rescue stations maintained by State agencies or contractors. The average hourly wage of a coal mine rescue team member is estimated to be \$40.10 (\$27.74 + \$52.47 /2), and the average hourly wage of a metal or nonmetal mine rescue team member is estimated to be \$32.71 (\$19.63 + \$45.79/2).

Hour Burden

Inspect and Certify Apparatus

$$124 \text{ teams} \times 6 \text{ apparatus per team} \times 12 \text{ inspections per year} \times 0.33 \text{ hour per inspection} = 2,976 \text{ hours}$$

Record Corrective Actions

$$124 \text{ teams} \times 6 \text{ apparatus per team} \times 6 \text{ defects per year} \times 0.25 \text{ hour per defect} = \underline{1,116 \text{ hours}}$$

$$\text{Total Hour Burden} = 4,092 \text{ hours}$$

Hour Burden Cost

$$4,092 \text{ hours} \times \$40.10 \text{ per hour} = \$164,089$$

Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines

There are approximately 68 mine rescue stations serving 174 metal and nonmetal mines which incur this inspection, certification, and recordkeeping burden. MSHA estimates that the 68 mine rescue stations maintain 136, 6-member teams.

Hour Burden

Inspect and Certify Apparatus

$$136 \text{ teams} \times 6 \text{ apparatus per team} \times 12 \text{ inspections per year} \times 0.33 \text{ hour per inspection} = 3,264 \text{ hours}$$

Record Corrective Actions

$$136 \text{ teams} \times 6 \text{ apparatus per team} \times 6 \text{ defects per year} \times 0.25 \text{ hour per defect} = \underline{1,224 \text{ hours}}$$

$$\text{Total Hour Burden} = 4,488 \text{ hours}$$

Hour Burden Cost

$$4,487 \text{ hours} \times \$32.71 \text{ per hour} = \$146,770$$

**30 CFR § 49.7**

Under § 49.7, each mine rescue team member must be examined by a physician annually, with the first examination being completed within 60 days prior to scheduled initial training. MSHA Form 5000-3 must be completed and signed by the examining physician for each team member must be completed and signed by the examining physician. The forms must be kept on file at the

mine rescue station for 1 year.

MSHA estimates that a physical examination takes an average of 4 hours to complete. The hour burden cost for this requirement is based on an average wage of \$40.10 per hour for a coal mine rescue team member and \$32.71 per hour for a metal or nonmetal mine rescue team member. The cost for the physician is addressed in Item 13.

It is MSHA's experience that the forms are gathered and maintained by the captains of the rescue teams. This requires no more than 15 minutes (0.25 hour) per form. The hour burden cost for this recordkeeping requirement is based on an average hourly wage of \$52.47 for a coal mine rescue team captain and \$45.79 for a metal or nonmetal mine rescue team captain.

### Underground Coal Mines

MSHA estimates that there are 80 mines which maintain 86, 6-member teams at 52 mine rescue stations. There are 38, 6-member teams at 24 mine rescue stations maintained by State agencies or contractors.

#### Hour Burden

##### Physical Examinations

124 teams x 6 members per team x 4 hours per examination = 2,976 hours

##### Recordkeeping

124 teams x 6 members per team x 0.25 hour per record = 186 hours

Total Hour Burden = 3,162 hours

#### Hour Burden Cost

2,976 hours x \$40.10 per hour = \$119,338

186 hours x \$52.47 per hour = \$ 9,759

Total Hour Burden Cost = \$129,097

### Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines

There are approximately 68 mine rescue stations serving 174 metal and nonmetal mines. MSHA estimates that the 68 mine rescue stations maintain 136, 6-member teams.

#### Hour Burden

##### Physical Examinations

136 teams x 6 members per team x 4 hours per examination (Team members) = 3,264 hours

##### Recordkeeping

136 teams x 6 members per team x 0.25 hour per

record	=	<u>204 hours</u>
Total Hour Burden	=	3,468 hours
<u>Hour Burden Cost</u>		
3,264 hours x \$32.71 per hour	=	\$106,765
204 hours x \$45.79 per hour	=	<u>\$</u>
		<u>9,341</u>
Total Hour Burden Cost	=	\$116,106

### 30 CFR § 49.8

Under § 49.8, each team member must receive 20 hours of initial training before serving on a mine rescue team and an additional 40 hours of refresher training annually. The training must be conducted by an MSHA certified trainer. A record of training of each team member must be kept on file at the mine rescue station for a period of 1 year.

Mine rescue team training is frequently conducted by the team captain or mine safety manager. In addition, some State agencies provide the training free of charge. Occasionally, a mine operator will hire a training contractor to provide the training. MSHA estimates that 60% of the mine rescue teams are trained by team captains or mine safety managers, 30% by State agencies, and 10% by training contractors. It is MSHA's experience that, on the average, each mine rescue team will have one new or replacement member each year. It is also MSHA's experience that a trainer normally trains two teams concurrently and completes the required records of training.

The hour burden for conducting the training, not including contract and State agency trainers, is estimated to be 22 hours for initial training and 44 hours for annual training. These estimates include a 10% adjustment to account for the time the trainer spends preparing for the training. Trainer hour burden estimates for state trainers are not included in the hour burden calculations, since there is no burden imposed on mine operators. The actual cost of the training provided by independent contractors is included under Item 13.

The 40-hour annual training can be given in intervals of 4 hours per month or 8 hours every 2 months. MSHA estimates that half of the teams exercise each option. MSHA also estimates that not more than 15 minutes (0.25 hour) is required to maintain each training record after each training session. Training records are maintained by the team captain.

The hour burden cost of the training and recordkeeping provided by team captains and safety managers is based on an average hourly wage of \$52.47 for coal mine rescue teams and \$45.79 for metal and nonmetal mine rescue teams.

### Underground Coal Mines

MSHA estimates that there are 80 mines which maintain 86, 6-member teams at 52 mine rescue stations. There are 38, 6-member teams at 24 mine rescue stations maintained by State agencies or contractors.

### Hour Burden

#### Training

124 teams x 60% x 1 new member per team x 0.5 (one trainer per two teams) x 22 hours initial training	=	818 hours
124 teams x 60% x 0.5 (one trainer per two teams) x 44 hours annual training	=	1,637 hours

#### Recordkeeping

124 teams x 1 new member per team x 0.25 hour	=	31 hours
62 teams x 6 members per team x 12 (4-hour sessions) per year x 0.25 hour	=	1,116 hours
62 teams x 6 members per team x 6 (8-hour sessions) per year x 0.25 hour	=	<u>558 hours</u>
Total Hour Burden	=	4,160 hours

### Hour Burden Cost

4,160 hours x \$52.47 per hour	=	\$218,275
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### Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines

There are 136 6-member teams serving 174 metal and nonmetal mines that incur this training and recordkeeping burden.

### Hour Burden

#### Training

136 teams x 60% x 1 new member per team x x 0.5 (one trainer per two teams) x 22 hours initial training	=	898 hours
136 teams x 60% x 0.5 (one trainer per two teams) x 44 hours annual training	=	1,795 hours

#### Recordkeeping

136 teams x 1 new member per team x .25 hours (initial training record maintenance)	=	34 hours
68 teams x 6 members per team x 12 (4-hour sessions) per year x .25 hours	=	1,224 hours
68 teams x 6 members per team x 6 (8-hour sessions) per year X .25 hours	=	<u>612 hours</u>
Total Hour Burden	=	4,562 hours

Hour Burden Cost

4,562 hours x \$45.79 per hour = \$ 208,940

**30 CFR § 49.9**

Under § 49.9, each underground mine must have a mine rescue notification plan outlining the procedures to follow in notifying the mine rescue teams when there is an emergency that requires their services. A copy of the mine rescue notification plan is required to be posted at the mine for the miners' information. Where a miners' representative has been designated, the operator must also provide the representative with a copy of the plan. The plan need be developed only once, and revised only when a change in notification procedures occurs. MSHA estimates that the notification procedures change at not more than 5% of the mines in any given year.

MSHA estimates new and revised notification plans require an average of 2 hours to prepare, mail, post, and provide to the miners' representative. This work is performed by safety department manager or mine superintendent (estimated average hourly wage of \$52.47 for coal mines and \$45.79 for metal and nonmetal mines).

Underground Coal Mines

Hour Burden

74 new mines x 2 hours per plan = 148 hours  
847 existing mines x 0.05 plan revisions  
per year x 2 hours per revision = 85 hours  
Total Hour Burden = 233 hours

Hour Burden Cost

233 hours x \$52.47 per hour = \$12,226

Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines

Hour Burden

20 new mines x 2 hours per plan = 40 hours  
204 existing mines x 0.05 plan revisions  
per year X 2 hours per plan = 20 hours  
Total Hour Burden = 60 hours

Hour Burden Cost

60 hours x \$45.79 per hour = \$2,747

**30 CFR §§ 75.1713-1(a), (b), and (e)**

Under §§ 75.1713-1(a), (b), and (e), operators of underground coal mines are required to make arrangements for 24-hour emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons. Operators are also required to post at appropriate places at the mine the names, titles, addresses, and telephone numbers of all persons or services currently available under those arrangements to

provide medical assistance and transportation at the mine.

The required information need be developed and posted only once, and revised only when a change in the arrangements for emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons occurs. MSHA estimates that the arrangements change at not more than 5% of the mines in any given year.

MSHA estimates that it requires an average of 2 hours to make arrangements for emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons and to post the required information about those arrangements. This work is generally performed by safety department managers or mine superintendents with an estimated average hourly wage of \$52.47.

Hour Burden

74 new mines x 2 hours per agreement	=	148 hours
847 existing mines x 0.05 revisions per mine x 2 hours per revised agreement	=	<u>85 hours</u>
Total Hour Burden	=	233 hours

Hour Burden Cost

233 hours x \$52.47	=	\$12,226
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**30 CFR §§ 77.1702(a), (b), and (e)**

Under §§ 77.1702(a), (b), and (e), operators of surface coal mines, surface areas of underground coal mines and, surface coal mine facilities are required to make arrangements for 24-hour emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons. Operators are also required to post at appropriate places at the mine the names, titles, addresses, and telephone numbers of all persons or services currently available under those arrangements to provide medical assistance and transportation at the mine.

The arrangements made pursuant to 30 CFR § 75.1713-1 (pertaining to underground coal mines) are applicable to the surface areas and surface facilities of that mine. Accordingly, the burden hours and costs resulting from executing and posting the emergency medical arrangements under §§ 77.1702(a), (b), and (e) are solely attributable to surface coal mines and separate surface coal mine facilities.

At the end of FY 99, there were 1,468 surface coal mines and surface coal mine facilities, and 133 new surface operations. MSHA estimates that approximately 5% (73 mines) of the existing operations experienced changes in circumstances which required revising and posting new medical emergency arrangements.

The required information need be developed and posted only once, and revised only when a change in the arrangements for emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons occurs. MSHA estimates that the arrangements change at not more than 5% of the mines in any given year.

MSHA estimates that it requires an average of 2 hours to make arrangements for emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons and to post the required information about those arrangements. This work is generally performed by safety department managers or mine superintendents with an estimated average hourly wage of \$42.

Hour Burden

133 new mine x 2 hours per agreement	=	266 hours
1,468 existing mines and facilities x 0.05 revisions per mine x 2 hours per revision	=	<u>147 hours</u>
Total Hour Burden	=	413 hours

Hour Burden Cost

413 hours x \$52.47 per hour	=	\$21,670
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Summary of Estimated Burden Hours and Burden Cost

Standard	Annual Responses	Hour Burden	Hour Burden Cost
49.2	147	146	\$7,460
49.3 and 49.4	10	20	\$943
49.6	28,080	8,580	\$310,881
49.7	3,120	6,630	\$245,204
49.8	14,456	8,723	\$427,215
49.9	147	293	\$14,973
75.1713-1	116	233	\$12,226
77.1702	206	413	\$21,670
Totals	46,282	25,037	\$1,040,571

**13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in Items 12 and 14).**

MSHA does not expect that mine operators will incur any capital or start-up costs as a result of this information collection requirement. Operation, maintenance, and purchase of services costs are detailed below.

**30 CFR § 49.2**

Under § 49.2, each operator of an underground mine who provides rescue teams under this standard is required to send the MSHA District Manager a statement describing the mine's

method of compliance with 30 CFR Part 49. The statement must indicate whether the operator has independently provided mine rescue teams or entered into an agreement for the services of mine rescue teams.

MSHA estimates that it will receive 74 new and 55 revised statements from underground coal mine operators and 15 new and 8 revised statements from underground metal and nonmetal mine operators each year.

**Underground Coal Mines**

74 new statements per year		
x \$0.33 postage per notice	=	\$23.68
55 revised statements per year		
x \$0.33 postage per statement	=	\$18.15

**Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines**

15 new statements per year		
x \$0.33 postage per notice	=	\$ 5
8 revised statements per year		
x \$0.33 postage per statement	=	<u>\$ 3</u>
<b>Total Cost</b>	=	<b>\$30</b>

**30 CFR §§ 49.3 and 49.4**

Under § 49.3, the operator may provide for an alternative mine rescue capability if an underground mine is small and remote. Under § 49.4, the operator may provide for an alternative mine rescue capability if an underground mine is operating under special mining conditions. Under both standards, the operator is required to submit an application for alternative mine rescue capability to the MSHA District Manager for review and approval.

MSHA estimates that it will receive an average of two new or revised applications for alternative mine rescue capability from underground coal mine operators and eight new or revised applications from underground metal and nonmetal mine operators each year.

**Underground Coal Mines**

2 new or revised applications per year		
x \$3 postage per application	=	\$ 6

**Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines**

8 new or revised applications per year		
x \$3 postage per application	=	<u>\$24</u>
<b>Total Cost</b>	=	<b>\$30</b>

**30 CFR § 49.7**

Under § 49.7, each mine rescue team member must be examined by a physician annually, and an MSHA Form 5000-3 for each team member must be completed and signed by the examining

physician. MSHA estimates that the cost of the physical examination is \$200.

Underground Coal Mines		
124 teams x 6 members per team		
x \$200 per physical examination	=	\$148,800
Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines		
136 teams x 6 members per team		
x \$200 per physical examination	=	<u>\$163,200</u>
Total Cost	=	\$312,000

### 30 CFR § 49.8

Under § 49.8, each team member must receive 20 hours of initial training before serving on a mine rescue team and an additional 40 hours of refresher training annually. The training must be conducted by an MSHA certified trainer. Mine rescue team training is frequently conducted by the team captain or mine safety manager. In addition, some State agencies provide the training free of charge. Occasionally, a mine operator will hire a training contractor to provide the training. MSHA estimates that 60% of the mine rescue teams are trained by team captains or mine safety managers, 30% by State trainers, and 10% by training contractors. The cost for training conducted by rescue team captains and mine safety managers is detailed under Item 12. No cost burden has been assigned for training conducted by State trainers, since there is no cost to mine operators. The cost of the remaining 10% of the training that is conducted by independent contractors is estimated below.

It is MSHA's experience that, on average, each mine rescue team will have one new or replacement member each year. It is also MSHA's experience that a trainer normally trains two teams concurrently and completes the required records of training. MSHA estimates that the average rate for a training contractor is \$200 per hour and that there is no additional charge for the contractor's preparation time.

Underground Coal Mines		
124 teams x 10% x 1 new member per team x		
0.5 (one trainer per two teams) x 20 hours		
initial training x \$200 per hour	=	\$24,800
124 teams x 10% x 0.5 (one trainer per two		
teams) x 40 hours annual training x \$200	=	\$49,600

Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines		
136 teams x 10% x 1 new member per team x 0.5 (one trainer per two teams) x 20 hours initial training x \$200 per hour	=	\$27,200
136 teams x 10% x 0.5 (one trainer per two teams) x 40 hours annual training x \$200	=	<u>\$54,400</u>
Total Cost	=	\$81,600

**14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information. Agencies also may aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 in a single table.**

MSHA inspectors examine records related to mine rescue teams and arrangements for emergency medical assistance and transportation for injured persons during routine inspections. MSHA estimates that the time expended for reviewing these records is minimal, and therefore no cost burden has been assigned. The costs for the Agency's review of statements of rescue team availability under § 49.2 and review and approval of applications for alternative mine rescue capability under §§ 49.3 and 49.4 are as follows.

### **30 CFR § 49.2**

Under § 49.2, each operator of an underground mine who provides rescue teams under this standard is required to send the MSHA District Manager a statement describing the mine's method of compliance with 30 CFR Part 49. The statement must indicate whether the operator has independently provided mine rescue teams or entered into an agreement for the services of mine rescue teams.

MSHA estimates that the Agency will receive 116 new or revised statements from underground coal mine operators and 21 new or revised statements from underground metal and nonmetal mine operators each year. MSHA also estimates that it takes an Agency safety specialist (GS 12/7) earning \$27 per hour approximately 1 hour to review and acknowledge the average statement, and an Agency clerk (GS 5/5), 15 minutes (0.25 hour) to process and file the statement.

Underground Coal Mines		
116 statements per year x 1 hour per statement x \$27 per hour	=	\$3,132
116 statements per year x 0.25 hour per statement x \$12 per hour	=	<u>\$ 348</u>
Total Cost	=	\$3,480

Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines		
30 statements per year x 1 hour per statement	=	\$810
x \$27 per hour		
30 statements per year x 0.25 hour per statement	=	\$ 90
x \$12 per hour		
Total Cost	=	\$900

### 30 CFR §§ 49.3 and 49.4

Under § 49.3, the operator may provide for an alternative mine rescue capability if an underground mine is small and remote. Under § 49.4, the operator may provide for an alternative mine rescue capability if an underground mine is operating under special mining conditions. Under both standards, the operator is required to submit an application for alternative mine rescue capability to the MSHA District Manager for review and approval. Provisions have been made for small or remote mines to submit alternate plans to MSHA for approval on an individual basis. Also, in certain States, small operators have gained relief through State plan agreements with MSHA, whereby State maintained mine rescue stations are made available to the mine operator.

MSHA's estimates that it will receive an average of two new or revised applications for alternative mine rescue capability from underground coal mine operators and eight new or revised applications from underground metal and nonmetal mine operators each year. MSHA also estimates that it takes an Agency safety specialist earning \$27 per hour approximately 1 hour to review the average application, and an Agency clerk 45 minutes (0.75 hour) to process the application and to prepare an approval letter for the district manager's signature.

Underground Coal Mines		
2 new or revised applications per year x		
1 hour per application x \$27 per hour	=	\$54
2 new or revised applications per year x		
0.75 hour per application x \$12 per hour	=	\$18
Total Cost	=	\$72

Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines		
8 new or revised applications per year x		
1 hour per application x \$26 per hour	=	\$208
8 new or revised applications per year x		
0.75 hour per application x \$12 per hour	=	\$ 72
Total Cost	=	\$280

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB Form 83-I.**

This Information Collection Request (ICR) results in a decrease of 4,230 hours (from 29,267 to 25,037), and an increase of \$32,673 (from \$1,007,898 to \$1,040,571) in burden costs. Although we have more mines (thus, the number of respondents increased from 3,138 to 6,122), the

number of responses decreased from 54,984 to 46,282, due to fewer active mine rescue teams. Therefore, the increase in burden costs is due to increases in salaries and postage during the past three years.

In addition, the ICR submitted three years ago consolidated the hours from three previously approved packages and included the hours and burden costs as program changes at that time.

**16. For collections of information whose results are planned to be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.**

The results from the information gathered from this collection will not be published.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

MSHA is not seeking approval to either display or not display the expiration date for OMB approval of this information collection.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19, "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions," of OMB Form 83-I.**

There are no certification exceptions identified with this information collection.

