

Lack of adequate ventilation in underground mines has resulted in fatalities from asphyxiation and/or explosions due to a buildup of explosive gases. Inadequate ventilation can be a primary factor for deaths caused by disease of the lungs (*e.g.*, silicosis). In addition, poor working conditions from lack of adequate ventilation contribute to accidents resulting from heat stress, limited visibility, or impaired judgment from contaminants.

30 CFR 57.8520 (Ventilation plan) requires the mine operator to prepare a written plan of the mine ventilation system. The plan is required to be updated at least annually. Upon written request of the District Manager, the plan or revisions must be submitted to MSHA for review and comment.

30 CFR 57.8525 (Main fan maintenance) requires the main ventilation fans for an underground mine must be maintained according to the manufacturer's recommendations or a written periodic schedule. Upon request of an authorized representative of the Secretary, this fan maintenance schedule must be made available for review. The records assure compliance with the standard and may serve as a warning mechanism for possible ventilation problems before they occur.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

MSHA is soliciting comments concerning the proposed information collection related to Ventilation Plan and Main Fan Maintenance Record. MSHA is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information has practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of MSHA's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Suggest methods to 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.

The information collection request will be available on <http://www.regulations.gov>. MSHA cautions the commenter against providing any information in the submission that should not be publicly disclosed. Full comments, including personal

information provided, will be made available on www.regulations.gov and www.reginfo.gov.

The public may also examine publicly available documents at DOL-MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 201 12th Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, VA 22202-5452. Sign in at the receptionist's desk on the 4th floor via the East elevator. Before visiting MSHA in person, call 202-693-9455 to make an appointment, in keeping with the Department of Labor's COVID-19 policy. Special health precautions may be required.

Questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

III. Current Actions

This request for collection of information contains provisions for Ventilation Plan and Main Fan Maintenance Record in 30 CFR 57.8520 and 30 CFR 57.8525. MSHA has updated the data with respect to the number of respondents, responses, burden hours, and burden costs supporting this information collection request.

Type of Review: Extension, without change, of a currently approved collection.

Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

OMB Number: 1219-0016.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 232.

Frequency: On occasion.

Number of Responses: 243.

Annual Burden Hours: 5,608 hours.

Annual Respondent or Recordkeeper Cost: \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Song-ae Aromie Noe,

Certifying Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA-2022-0002]

National Advisory Committee on Occupational Safety and Health (NACOSH); Charter Renewal

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Renewal of the NACOSH charter.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Labor (Secretary) has renewed the charter for NACOSH.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For press inquiries: Mr. Frank Meilinger, Director, OSHA Office of Communications, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone: (202) 693-1999; email: meilinger.francis2@dol.gov.

For general information: Ms. Lisa Long, Acting Deputy Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone: (202) 693-2049; email: long.lisa@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary has renewed the NACOSH charter. The charter will expire two years from its filing date.

Congress established NACOSH in Section 7(a) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act) (29 U.S.C. 651, 656) to advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on matters relating to the administration of the OSH Act. NACOSH is a non-discretionary advisory committee of indefinite duration.

NACOSH operates in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. 2), its implementing regulations (41 CFR part 102-3), and OSHA's regulations on NACOSH (29 CFR part 1912a). Pursuant to FACA (5 U.S.C. App. 2, 14(b)(2)), the NACOSH charter must be renewed every two years.

The new charter increases the estimated annual operational costs for NACOSH by approximately 3 percent (from \$195,840 to \$201,715.20).

The new NACOSH charter is available to read or download at <http://www.regulations.gov> (Docket No. OSHA-2022-0002), the federal rulemaking portal. The charter also is available on the NACOSH page on OSHA's web page at <http://www.osha.gov> and at the OSHA Docket Office, N-3653, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW,

Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-2350. In addition, the charter is available for viewing or download at the Federal Advisory Committee Database at <http://www.facadatabase.gov>.

Authority and Signature

James S. Frederick, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, authorized the preparation of this notice under the authority granted by 29 U.S.C. 656; 5 U.S.C. App. 2; 29 CFR part 1912a; 41 CFR part 102-3; and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 8-2020 (85 FR 58393, Sept. 18, 2020).

Signed at Washington, DC, on September 26, 2022.

James S. Frederick,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Wage and Hour Division

Minimum Wage for Federal Contracts Covered by Executive Order 14026, Notice of Rate Change in Effect as of January 1, 2023

AGENCY: Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Wage and Hour Division (WHD) of the U.S. Department of Labor (the Department) is issuing this notice to announce the applicable minimum wage rate for workers performing work on or in connection with federal contracts covered by Executive Order 14026, Increasing the Minimum Wage for Federal Contractors (the Executive Order or the order). Beginning on January 1, 2023, the Executive Order 14026 minimum wage rate that generally must be paid to workers performing work on or in connection with covered contracts will increase to \$16.20 per hour, while the required minimum cash wage that generally must be paid to tipped employees performing work on or in connection with covered contracts will increase to \$13.75 per hour. Similar contracts that were entered into, renewed, or extended prior to January 30, 2022, are generally subject to a lower minimum wage rate established by Executive Order 13658 of February 12, 2014, Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors.

DATES: These new Executive Order 14026 wage rates shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy DeBisschop, Director, Division of Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-0406 (this is not a toll-free number). Alternative formats are available upon request by calling 1-866-487-9243. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Executive Order 14026 Background and Requirements for Determining Annual Increases to the Minimum Wage Rate

On April 27, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. signed Executive Order 14026, "Increasing the Minimum Wage for Federal Contractors." 86 FR 22835. In relevant part, Executive Order 14026 raised the hourly minimum wage paid by federal contractors to workers performing work on or in connection with certain covered Federal contracts to \$15.00 per hour, beginning January 30, 2022, with annual adjustments for inflation thereafter in amounts determined by the Secretary of Labor. *Id.*

Executive Order 14026 directed the Secretary to issue regulations to implement the order's requirements. *See* 86 FR 22836. Accordingly, after engaging in notice-and-comment rulemaking, the Department published a final rule on November 24, 2021, implementing Executive Order 14026. *See* 86 FR 67126. The final regulations, set forth at 29 CFR part 23, established standards and procedures for implementing and enforcing the minimum wage protections of Executive Order 14026.¹

Executive Order 14026 and its implementing regulations require the Secretary to determine the applicable minimum wage rate for workers performing work on or in connection with covered contracts on an annual basis, beginning January 1, 2023. *See* 86 FR 22835-36; *see also* 29 CFR 23.10(b)(2), 23.50(a)(2), 23.120(a). Sections 2(a) and (b) of Executive Order 14026 establish the methodology that

¹ Based on an order issued by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit on February 17, 2022, the minimum wage requirements of the final rule implementing Executive Order 14026 are not currently being enforced as to "contracts or contract-like instruments entered into with the federal government in connection with seasonal recreational services or seasonal recreational equipment rental for the general public on federal lands." The final rule's requirements remain in effect for all other contracts subject to the rule.

the Secretary must use to determine the annual inflation-based increases to the minimum wage rate. *See* 86 FR 22835-36. These provisions, which are implemented in 29 CFR 23.50(b)(2), explain that the applicable minimum wage determined by the Secretary for each calendar year shall be:

- Not less than the amount in effect on the date of such determination;
- Increased from such amount by the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) (United States city average, all items, not seasonally adjusted), or its successor publication, as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); and
- Rounded to the nearest multiple of \$0.05.

Section 2(b) of Executive Order 14026 further provides that, in calculating the annual percentage increase in the CPI-W for purposes of determining the new minimum wage rate, the Secretary shall compare such CPI-W for the most recent month, quarter, or year available (as selected by the Secretary prior to the first year for which a minimum wage is in effect) with the CPI-W for the same month in the preceding year, the same quarter in the preceding year, or the preceding year, respectively. *See* 86 FR 22835-36. To calculate the annual percentage increase in the CPI-W, the Department elected in its final rule implementing Executive Order 14026 to compare such CPI-W for the most recent year available with the CPI-W for the preceding year. *See* 29 CFR 23.50(b)(2)(iii). Consistent with the regulations implementing Executive Order 13658, *see* 29 CFR 10.5, the Department explained that it decided to compare the CPI-W for the most recent year available (instead of using the most recent month or quarter, as allowed by the order) with the CPI-W for the preceding year, "to minimize the impact of seasonal fluctuations on the Executive order minimum wage rate." 86 FR 67167.

Once a determination has been made with respect to the new minimum wage rate, Executive Order 14026 and its implementing regulations require the Secretary to notify the public of the applicable minimum wage rate on an annual basis at least 90 days before any new minimum wage takes effect. *See* 86 FR 22835; 29 CFR 23.50(a)(2), 23.120(c)(1). The regulations explain that the Administrator of the Department's Wage and Hour Division (the Administrator) will publish an annual notice in the **Federal Register** stating the applicable minimum wage rate at least 90 days before any new minimum wage takes effect. *See* 29 CFR