DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Sixty

Days' Public Comment; O*NET Data Collection Program,

Extension of Currently Approved Collection Without Change

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing

effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a

preclearance 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 Employment and

Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning

the proposed extension of the O*NET (Occupational

Information Network) Data Collection Program. A copy of the

proposed information collection request (ICR) can be

obtained by contacting the office listed below in the

1

addressee section of this notice or by accessing:

http://www.onetcenter.org/ombclearance.html

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office

listed in the addressee's section below on or before (INSERT

DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL

REGISTER).

ADDRESSEE: Send comments to the Employment and Training

Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room C4526,

Washington, DC 20210, Attention: Pam Frugoli. Fax: 202-693-

3015 (this is not a toll-free number). E-mail: o-

net@doleta.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lauren Wright, Telephone

number 202-693-3045 (this is not a toll-free number), E-

mail: wright.lauren@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background:

   The O*NET Data Collection Program is an ongoing effort

to collect and maintain current information on the detailed

characteristics of occupations and skills for more than 900

occupations. The resulting database provides the most

comprehensive standardized source of occupational and skills

information in the nation. O*NET information is used by a wide range of audiences, including individuals making career decisions, public agencies and schools providing career exploration services or education and training programs, and businesses making staffing and training decisions. The O*NET system provides a common language, framework and database to meet the administrative needs of various federal programs, including workforce investment and training programs supported by funding from the Departments of Labor, Education, and Health and Human Services.

Section 309 of the Workforce Investment Act requires the Secretary of Labor to oversee the "development, maintenance, and continuous improvement of a nationwide employment statistics system" which shall include, among other components, "skill trends by occupation and industry." The O*NET database provides:

- Detailed information for more than 900 occupations.

- Descriptive information using standardized descriptors for skills, abilities, interests, knowledge, work values, education, training, work context, and work activities.

- Occupational coding based on the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system.

The O*NET electronic database and related O*NET products and tools have been incorporated into numerous public and

private sector products and resources, summarized at

http://www.onetcenter.org/paw.html. These products in turn

serve millions of customers.

II. Review Focus:

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in

comments which:

    *   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

submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions:

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration.

Title: O*NET Data Collection Program.

OMB Number: 1205-0421.

Affected Public: Business/Employers (includes private and not-for-profit businesses and government); individuals (incumbent workers, subject-matter experts).

Form: O*NET Data Collection Program

Total Annual Respondents: 26288

Frequency: annual

Total Annual Responses: 26288

Average Time per Response: Employer response time is 70 minutes. Incumbent worker response time is 30 minutes. Subject-matter expert response time is 90 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 13,670

Total Annual Burden Cost: $536,820

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or 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.

SIGNED: at Washington, D.C. this 16th day of November, 2011.

Jane Oates

Assistant Secretary,

Employment and Training Administration

Billing Code: 4510-FN-P

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