

Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention : Stuart Shapiro, Department of Justice Desk Officer, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20530, 202-395-7316.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) 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;

(2) 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;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) 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.

Overview of This Information Collection

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application for Employment Authorization.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection:* Form I-765, Adjudications Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or Households. The information contained in this form will be used by the INS to determine eligibility for work authorization and for the issuance of the employment document.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 1,244,722 responses at 3 hours and 25 minutes (3.416 hours) per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 4,251,970 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the

proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan 202-514-3291, Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Department of Justice, Room 5307, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536.

Additionally, comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: June 16, 1999.

Richard A. Sloan,

Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

[FR Doc. 99-15760 Filed 6-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

National Institute of Corrections

Solicitation for a Cooperative Agreement

SUMMARY: The Department of Justice (DOJ), National Institute of Corrections (NIC), announces the availability of funds in FY 1999 for a cooperative agreement to fund the "Classification of Women Offenders" project.

A cooperative agreement is a form of assistance relationship where the National Institute of Corrections is substantially involved during the performance of the award. An award is made to an organization that will, in concert with the Institute, provide assistance to correctional agencies making enhancements in their classification systems to develop classification instruments and procedures that are valid and appropriate for women offenders. The project will entail an assessment of the current status of classification of women offenders nationally by determining which state systems have initiated the development of classification instruments and operational procedures to address the requirements of this offender population.

Assistance will be provided under this cooperative agreement to at least three agencies requesting technical

assistance in assessing current practices and operational procedures and the impact of their classification systems on women offenders. The recipient of the cooperative agreement will conduct onsite assessments of the classification systems at participating agencies; provide assistance and oversight in revising the instruments and procedures, as necessary; and provide technical assistance and training. Prison systems selected for participation will have the resources necessary to make enhancements, to provide data for analysis, and the capacity to measure outcomes and impact of the classification systems implemented. A steering committee will be appointed by each agency to coordinate activities related to the project. No funds are transferred to state or local governments.

Background: It is assumed that because women offenders represent a small percentage of the total inmate population, and present a lower level of institutional and public risk, many correctional agencies have not addressed the gender-specific and validation concerns related to differences in risks and program needs of women offenders. An evaluation of the procedures and instrument for intake assessment, initial classification and reclassification is required to determine if the objective classification criteria developed for an offender population which is predominately male results in over-classification and inadequate service delivery with the female population.

Classification systems should be monitored and periodically evaluated to ensure the system is working as designed. Classification systems should also be validated on both the male and female offender population to determine what impact the system has on inmate operations and assessing risks and needs. This cooperative agreement will concentrate on the female population.

NIC has announced the availability of technical assistance through the annual Program Plan and will send letters to agency directors advising them that their agencies can apply for assistance through this project. A selection of states will be made by NIC and the cooperative agreement awardee. The selections will be based on criteria that will be established to find correctional agencies with the interest, need and resources for this type of assistance.

Purpose: The National Institute of Corrections is seeking applications for a cooperative agreement to do the project management to assist correctional agencies to plan and evaluate their classification systems to address the

gender-specific issues; develop classification instruments that are valid and appropriate for women offenders to assess risks and needs; guide the agencies in the development of a plan for implementation of changes that may result from this work; and develop detailed reports on each state project and the national assessment. It is anticipated that subject to satisfactory completion of the first phase of work, the recipient of the FY 1999 cooperative agreement will be awarded the cooperative agreement for the continuation of work through a second year in FY 2000, to assist additional correctional agencies and produce a publication.

Authority: Public Law 93-415.

Funds Available: The award will be limited to a maximum total of \$100,000 (direct and indirect costs) and project activity must be completed within 12 months of the date of the award. Funds may only be used for the activities that are linked to the desired outcomes of the project. This project will be a collaborative venture with the NIC Prisons Division.

All products from this funding effort will be in public domain and available to interested agencies through the National Institute of Corrections.

Deadline for Receipt of Applications: Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 30, 1999. They should be addressed to: National Institute of Corrections, 320 First Street, NW, Room 5007, Washington, D.C. 20534, Attention: Administrative Officer. Hand delivered applications can be brought to 500 First Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20534. The front desk will call Bobbi Tinsley at (202) 307-3106, extension 0 for pickup.

Addresses and Further Information: Requests for the application kit, which consists of a copy of this announcement and copies of the required forms, should be directed to Judy Evens, Cooperative Agreement Control Office, National Institute of Corrections, 320 First Street, N.W., Room 5007, Washington, D.C. 20534 or by calling (800) 995-6423, extension 159 or (202) 307-3106, extension 159. She can also be contacted by E-mail via jevans@bop.gov. All technical and/or programmatic questions concerning this announcement should be directed to Sammie D. Brown at the above address or by calling (800) 995-6423, or (202) 307-3106, extension 126, or by E-mail via sbrown@bop.gov. Application forms may also be obtained through the NIC website: <http://www.nicic.org>.

Eligible Applicants: An eligible applicant is any private or non-profit

organization, institution, individual, or team with expertise in both prison classification and women offender issues.

Review Considerations: Applications received under this announcement will be subjected to an NIC three to five member Peer Review Process.

Number of Awards: One (1).

NIC Application Number: 99P03. This number should appear as a reference line in the cover letter and also in box 11 of Standard Form 424.

Executive Order 12372: This program is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372. Executive Order 12372 allows States the option of setting up a system for reviewing applications from within their States for assistance under certain Federal programs. Applicants (other than Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments) should contact their State Single Point of Contact (SPOC), a list of which is included in the application kit, along with further instructions on proposed projects serving more than one State.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is: 16.603.

Morris L. Thigpen,

Director, National Institute of Corrections.

[FR Doc. 99-15787 Filed 6-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Summary of Decisions Granting in Whole or in Part Petitions for Modification

AGENCY: Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice of affirmative decisions issued by the Administrators for Coal Mine Safety and Health and Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health on petitions for modification of the application of mandatory safety standards.

SUMMARY: Under section 101 of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, the Secretary of Labor may allow the modification of the application of a mandatory safety standard to a mine if the Secretary determines either that an alternate method exists at a specific mine that will guarantee no less protection for the miners affected than that provided by the standard, or that the application of the standard at a specific mine will result in a diminution of safety to the affected miners.

Final decisions on these petitions are based upon the petitioner's statements, comments and information submitted

by interested persons, and a field investigation of the conditions at the mine. MSHA has granted or partially granted the requests for modification submitted by the petitioners listed below. In some instances, the decisions are conditioned upon compliance with stipulations stated in the decision. The cite following "FR Notice:" refers to the issue of the **Federal Register** where MSHA published the notice that the petitioner was seeking a modification.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Petitions and copies of the final decisions are available for examination by the public in the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, Room 627, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Contact Barbara Barron at 703-235-1910.

Dated: June 16, 1999.

Carol J. Jones,

Acting Director, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances.

Affirmative Decisions on Petitions for Modification

Docket No.: M-98-011-C.

FR Notice: 63 FR 11697.

Petitioner: FKZ Coal, Inc.

Regulation Affected: 30 CFR 75.1100-2.

Summary of Findings: Petitioner's proposal to use only portable fire extinguishers to replace existing requirements where rock dust, water cars, and other water storage are not practical considered acceptable alternative method. Granted for the No. 1 Slope Mine with conditions.

Docket No.: M-98-022-C.

FR Notice: 63 FR 18232.

Petitioner: Consolidation Coal Company.

Regulation Affected: 30 CFR 75.503.

Summary of Findings: Petitioner's proposal to use a spring-loaded metal locking device instead of padlocks for securing battery-charging plugs to machine-mounted battery receptacles on permissible, mobile, battery-powered scoop cars considered acceptable alternative method. Granted for the Rend Lake Mine with conditions.

Docket No.: M-98-028-C.

FR Notice: 63 FR 29034.

Petitioner: Lodestar Energy.

Regulation Affected: 30 CFR 75.503.

Summary of Findings: Petitioner's proposal to use 750 feet of No. 6 cable on Fletcher single boom roof bolters considered acceptable alternative method. Granted for the Baker Mine with conditions.

Docket No.: M-98-030-C.

FR Notice: 63 FR 29034.

Petitioner: Lone Mountain Processing, Inc.