

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: 8/4/16 3:30 PM Received: August 03, 2016 Status: Posted Posted: August 04, 2016 Tracking No. 1k0-8r4j-50pu Comments Due: September 06, 2016 Submission Type: Web

Docket: MSHA-2014-0030

Examinations of Working Places in Metal and Nonmetal Mines. 30 CFR Parts 56 and 57

Comment On: MSHA-2014-0030-0019

Examinations of Working Places in Metal and Nonmetal Mines

Document: MSHA-2014-0030-0042

Comment from Mining Employee, NA

Submitter Information

Name: Mining Employee

Organization: NA

General Comment

I am employed in the metal/non-metal industry which employs over 220,000 hard working men and women at more than 11,000 facilities producing a variety of basic raw materials fundamental to the success of the US economy.

The comment period for MSHA's Proposed Rule on Examinations of Working Places in Metal and Nonmetal Mines (the "Proposed Rule"), must be extended an additional 60 days to allow interested parties adequate time to consider its impact and ensure a rule that is equitable for all.

Moreover, it is evident (based on MSHA's own admission that it is unable to quantify the benefits of this rule) that MSHA-itself needs additional time to gather and assess the data necessary to justify amendments to the existing rule.

Typically, a rulemaking is structured so hearings are still occurring AFTER comments are due. In this case, due to the current lack of information justifying benefit, this becomes all the more important.

I request:

1. The Comment period be extended 60 days to November 6, 2016.
2. Additional hearings at least 30 days AFTER this comment due date (no earlier than December 6, 2016), to allow MSHA time to evaluate and respond to written comments it has received.

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3. A 30 day follow-up comment period (until at least January 6, 2017) for further comments to be evaluated and addressed in the rulemaking record.

Thank you for your consideration of this request for the outlined extension.