

The PBGC uses the information it receives to make determinations required by ERISA, to identify and estimate the cash needed for financial assistance to terminated plans, and to verify the appropriateness of financial assistance payments. Plan participants and beneficiaries use the information to make personal financial decisions.

The PBGC estimates that plan sponsors each year give benefit reduction notices for 1 plan and give notices of insolvency benefit level and annual updates, and submit requests for financial assistance, for 25 plans. Of those 25 plans, the PBGC estimates that plan sponsors each year give notices of insolvency for 3 plans. The estimated annual burden of the collection of information is 1 hour and \$115,856.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 12th day of June, 2001.

**Stuart A. Sirkin,**

*Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.*

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## PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

### Proposed Submission of Information Collection for OMB Review; Comment Request; Liability for Termination of Single-Employer Plans

**AGENCY:** Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

**ACTION:** Notice of intention to request extension of OMB approval.

**SUMMARY:** The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("PBGC") intends to request that the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") extend approval, under the Paperwork Reduction Act, of a collection of information contained in its regulation on Liability for Termination of Single-Employer Plans, 29 CFR Part 4062 (OMB control number 1212-0017; expires September 30, 2001). This notice informs the public of the PBGC's intent and solicits public comment on the collection of information.

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted by August 14, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to the Office of the General Counsel, suite 340, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, or delivered to that address between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on business days. Written comments will be available for public inspection at the PBGC's Communications and Public Affairs

Department, suite 240 at the same address, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on business days.

Copies of the collection of information may be obtained without charge by writing to the PBGC's Communications and Public Affairs Department at the address given above or calling 202-326-4040. (For TTY and TDD, call 800-877-8339 and request connection to 202-326-4040). The regulation on Liability for Termination of Single-Employer Plans can be accessed on the PBGC's Web site at <http://www.pbgc.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, or Catherine B. Klion, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, 202-326-4024. (For TTY and TDD, call 800-877-8339 and request connection to 202-326-4024).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 4062 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 provides that the contributing sponsor of a single-employer pension plan and members of the sponsor's controlled group ("the employer") incur liability ("employer liability") if the plan terminates with assets insufficient to pay benefit liabilities under the plan. The PBGC's statutory lien for employer liability and the payment terms for employer liability are affected by whether and to what extent employer liability exceeds 30 percent of the employer's net worth.

Section 4062.6 of the PBGC's employer liability regulation (29 CFR 4062.6) requires a contributing sponsor or member of the contributing sponsor's controlled group who believes employer liability upon plan termination exceeds 30 percent of the employer's net worth to so notify the PBGC and to submit net worth information. This information is necessary to enable the PBGC to determine whether and to what extent employer liability exceeds 30 percent of the employer's net worth.

The collection of information under the regulation has been approved by OMB under control number 1212-0017 through September 30, 2001. The PBGC intends to request that OMB extend its approval for another three years. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The PBGC estimates that an average of 6 contributing sponsors or controlled group members per year will respond to this collection of information. The PBGC further estimates that the average

annual burden of this collection of information will be 12 hours and \$2,400 per respondent, with an average total annual burden of 72 hours and \$14,400.

The PBGC is soliciting public comments to—

- Evaluate whether the 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 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 submission of responses.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 12th day of June, 2001.

**Stuart A. Sirkin,**

*Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.*

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## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### Proposed Collection: Comment Request for Review of an Expiring Information Collection: Standard Form 1153

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget a request for review of an expiring information collection. Standard Form 1153, Claim for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Civilian Employee is used to collect information from individuals, who have been designated as beneficiaries of the unpaid compensation of a deceased Federal employee or who believe that their relationship to the deceased entitles them to receive the unpaid compensation of a deceased Federal employee. OPM needs this information