

The extension of the proposed collection requirements seem necessary and useful for the purpose of continuing to adequately protect workers of the welding, cutting, and brazing occupation. Protecting workers which is and should continue to be at the core of OSHA's duties, especially for industries that deal with great hazards such as the one in question. Even minor changes can have a big impact, which should not be overlooked. Additionally, as to the point of if the collected information itself and whether is useful or not, it is surely useful. OSHA has collected such data across various industries for years in an effort to protect workers' safety. The implemented change is pragmatic due to the decrease in numbers of those employed in the industry and is a proactive step into both small and large workplaces by reducing burdens and steps for employers, so they are able to work efficiently.

There is a great need for the government to stay up to date and use the best practices and technologies possible in order to stay ahead and minimize risks on the job. Automated technology is likely best for a smooth transition. This need is balanced against the OSHA requirement of not burdening employers with cumbersome or unnecessary procedures and tools. If the procedures that are put in place are not too tedious by being too time-consuming and difficult to implement for employers and their employees, then there is virtually no reason for any pushback that would continue to allow the agency to assist in the upkeep of safe workplaces and practical burden reductions.

It would likely be in the best interest of both parties if the information collection requirements were done in a way that is turnkey to not excite workplace irritations. It is no secret that the country is experiencing a period of widespread low workplace morale and quiet-quitting that would not be improved by tasks that are considered extra, mundane, or unnecessary. If OSHA can implement new practices with straightforward messages that new procedures and changes are to the benefit of the workers and their safety, and that they would help rather than hinder productivity, then there is less risk of increased workplace tension or pushback of any kind by way of new requirements.