

Internal Revenue Service

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Person To Contact:
, ID No.

Telephone Number:

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PLR-134603-14

Date:
March 16, 2015

X =
Country =
Date 1 =
Year =

Dear :

This letter responds to a letter dated September 15, 2014, and subsequent correspondence, submitted on behalf of X, requesting that the Service grant X an extension of time under § 301.9100-3 of the Procedure and Administration Regulations to make an election to be classified as a partnership under § 301.7701-3 for federal tax purposes.

FACTS

The information submitted states that X was formed under the laws of Country. X represents that, as of Date 1, X was a foreign entity eligible to elect to be classified as a partnership for federal tax purposes. However, X inadvertently failed to timely file a Form 8832, Entity Classification Election, electing to be classified as a partnership effective Date 1.

LAW AND ANALYSIS

Section 301.7701-3(a) provides, in part, that a business entity that is not classified as a corporation under § 301.7701-2(b)(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), or (8) (an eligible entity) can elect its classification for federal tax purposes as provided in § 301.7701-3. An eligible entity with at least two members can elect to be classified as

either an association (and thus a corporation under § 301.7701-2(b)(2)) or a partnership, and an eligible entity with a single owner can elect to be classified as an association or to be disregarded as an entity separate from its owner.

Section 301.7701-3(b)(2)(i) provides that, except as provided in § 301.7701-3(b)(3), unless the entity elects otherwise, a foreign eligible entity is: (A) a partnership if it has two or more members and at least one member does not have limited liability; (B) an association if all members have limited liability; or (C) disregarded as an entity separate from its owner if it has a single owner that does not have limited liability. Section 301.7701-3(b)(2)(ii) provides, in part, that for purposes of § 301.7701-3(b)(2)(i), a member of a foreign eligible entity has limited liability if the member has no personal liability for the debts of or claims against the entity by reason of being a member.

Section 301.7701-3(c)(1)(i) provides, in part, that, except as provided in § 301.7701-3(c)(1)(iv) and (v), an eligible entity may elect to be classified other than as provided under § 301.7701-3(b), or to change its classification, by filing Form 8832 with the service center designated on Form 8832.

Section 301.7701-3(c)(1)(iii) provides, in part, that an election made under § 301.7701-3(c)(1)(i) will be effective on the date specified by the entity on Form 8832 or on the date filed if no such date is specified on the election form. The effective date specified on Form 8832 cannot be more than 75 days prior to the date on which the election is filed and cannot be more than 12 months after the date on which the election is filed.

Section 301.7701-3(g)(1)(ii) provides that if an eligible entity classified as an association elects to be classified as a partnership, the following is deemed to occur: The association distributes all of its assets and liabilities to its shareholders in liquidation of the association, and immediately thereafter, the shareholders contribute all of the distributed assets and liabilities to a newly formed partnership.

Section 301.9100-1(c) provides that the Commissioner may grant a reasonable extension of time to make a regulatory election, or a statutory election (but no more than 6 months except in the case of a taxpayer who is abroad), under all subtitles of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) except subtitles E, G, H, and I. Section 301.9100-1(b) defines the term “regulatory election” as an election whose due date is prescribed by a regulation published in the Federal Register or a revenue ruling, revenue procedure, notice, or announcement published in the Internal Revenue Bulletin.

Sections 301.9100-1 through 301.9100-3 provide the standards the Commissioner will use to determine whether to grant an extension of time to make the election. Section 301.9100-2 provides the rules governing automatic extensions of time for making certain elections. Section 301.9100-3 provides the standards the Commissioner will use to determine whether to grant an extension of time for regulatory elections that do not meet the requirements of § 301.9100-2.

Section 301.9100-3(a) provides that a request for relief under § 301.9100-3 will be granted when the taxpayer provides the evidence (including affidavits described in § 301.9100-3(e)) to establish to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that (1) the taxpayer acted reasonably and in good faith, and (2) the grant of relief will not prejudice the interests of the Government.

CONCLUSION

Based solely on the information submitted and representations made, we conclude that the requirements of §§ 301.9100-1 and 301.9100-3 have been satisfied. As a result, X is granted an extension of time of 120 days from the date of this letter to file a Form 8832 with the appropriate service center and elect to be classified as a partnership effective Date 1. A copy of this letter should be attached to the Form 8832.

This ruling is contingent on X and the owners of X filing, within the earlier of 120 days from the date of this letter or the expiration of X's owners' statute of limitations for Year, any required returns (including amended returns) consistent with the requested relief (including the application of § 301.7701-3(g)(1)(ii)) being effective on Date 1. To the extent appropriate, these returns or amended returns must include, but are not limited to, Forms 8865, Information Return of U.S. Persons With Respect to Certain Foreign Partnerships, and Forms 5471, Information Return of U.S. Persons With Respect to Certain Foreign Corporations, such that these forms reflect the consequences of the relief granted in this letter. A copy of this letter should be attached to any such returns or amended returns.

Except as expressly provided herein, we express or imply no opinion concerning the federal tax consequences of any aspect of any transaction or item discussed or referenced in this letter. In addition, § 301.9100-1(a) provides that the granting of an extension of time for making an election is not a determination that the taxpayer is otherwise eligible to make the election.

This ruling is directed only to the taxpayer requesting it. Section 6110(k)(3) of the Code provides that it may not be used or cited as precedent.

In accordance with a power of attorney on file with this office, we are sending a copy of this letter to X's authorized representative.

The ruling contained in this letter is based upon information and representations submitted by the taxpayer and accompanied by a penalty of perjury statement executed by an appropriate party. While this office has not verified any of the material submitted in support of the ruling request, it is subject to verification on examination.

Sincerely,

Associate Chief Counsel
(Passthroughs and Special Industries)

By:

Mary Beth Carchia
Senior Technician Reviewer, Branch 3
Office of Associate Chief Counsel
(Passthroughs & Special Industries)

Enclosures (2):

Copy of this letter
Copy for § 6110 purposes

cc: