§ 1530.110 Records, certification, and documentation.

(a) A licensee shall establish a documentation agreement with the Licensing Authority before submitting for credit against a license. The licensee shall propose to the Licensing Authority a list of documents to substantiate entries, transfers, exports, or use as appropriate. The Licensing Authority shall consider the licensee’s proposal to assure that it provides that a program transaction is fully substantiated, and shall then respond in writing to the licensee in a timely fashion outlining any deficiencies. Once agreed, the licensee shall submit a notarized letter specifying the documents to be maintained on file and certifying that the charges and credits made pursuant to § 1530.106 will be kept on file, identifiable by a unique number, and available for inspection pursuant to § 1530.110.

(b) For all transactions, the documentation shall:

1. Substantiate the information required in § 1530.109 (c), and the completion of the reported transaction;
2. Establish the buyer and seller specifications for a transaction;
3. Include all U.S. Customs forms submitted in the entry or export process;
4. Provide the correct telephone numbers and addresses of any agents, consignees, foreign purchasers, and non-vessel operating common carriers used in completing the transaction;
5. Indicate the port of entry or export for the program transaction;
6. Provide the percentage of sugar in a sugar containing product or certain polyhydric alcohols; and
7. Provide the name of export carrier, vessel name, and container number.

(c) The licensee shall maintain the documentation established in the documentation agreement for 5 years from the date of such program transaction.

(d) Upon request, the licensee shall make the records, outlined by the documentation agreement and identified (associated) by the unique number assigned by the licensee to the program transaction as reported to the Licensing Authority for posting against a license balance, available for inspection and copying by the Licensing Authority, the Compliance Review Staff of the Foreign Agricultural Service, and/or the Office of the Inspector General, USDA, the U.S. Department of Justice, or any U.S. Government regulatory or investigative office.

§ 1530.111 Enforcement and penalties.

(a) The Licensing Authority may revoke credits granted on a license if the credits granted do not meet the requirements set forth in the regulations of this part, or if the licensee does not voluntarily charge back credits erroneously claimed in accordance with these regulations. The Licensing Authority may also recommend revocation of a license, if the licensee has been in violation of § 1530.109 (c) of this part.

(b) The Administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA, may suspend or revoke a license upon recommendation of the Licensing Authority. Suspension of a license will be governed by 7 CFR part 3017, subpart D and debarment will be governed by 7 CFR part 3017, subpart C.

§ 1530.112 Administrative appeals.

(a) The licensee may appeal the Licensing Authority’s determination by filing a written notice of appeal, signed by the licensee or the licensee’s agent, with the Director, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service (Director), or his or her designee. The decision on such an appeal shall be made by the Director, and will be governed by § 3017.515 of this title. The appeal must be filed not later than 30 days after the date of the Licensing Authority’s determination, and shall contain the licensee’s written argument.

(b) The licensee may request an informal hearing. The Director shall arrange a place and time for the hearing, except that it shall be held within 30 days of the filing date of the notice of appeal if the licensee so requests.

(c) The licensee may be represented by counsel, and shall have full opportunity to present any relevant evidence, documentary or testimonial. The Director may permit other individuals to present evidence at the hearing and the licensee shall have an opportunity to question those witnesses.