Revenue Laws; Hearing

RIN 1545–BJ89

26 CFR Part 301

Internal Revenue Service

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

26 CFR Part 301

[REG–131151–10]

RIN 1545–BJ89

Rewards and Awards for Information Relating to Violations of Internal Revenue Laws; Hearing

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing on proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice of public hearing on a notice of proposed rulemaking relating to the payment of rewards under section 7623(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and awards under section 7623(b). The guidance is necessary to clarify the definition of proceeds of amounts collected and collected proceeds under section 7623. This regulation provides needed guidance to the general public as well as officers and employees of the IRS who review claims under section 7623.

DATES: The public hearing is being held on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at 10 a.m. The IRS must receive outlines of the topics to be discussed at the hearing by Tuesday, April 19, 2011.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing is being held in the auditorium, Internal Revenue Building, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. Send submissions to: CC: PA: LPD: PR (REG–131151–10), room 5203, Internal Revenue Service, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. Submissions may be hand-delivered Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to CC: PA: LPD: PR (REG–131151–10), Courier’s Desk, Internal Revenue Service, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. Alternatively, taxpayers may submit electronic outlines of oral comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Concerning the proposed regulations, Kirsten N. Witter at (202) 927–0900; concerning submissions of comments, the hearing, and/or to be placed on the building access list to attend the hearing, Richard A. Hurst at Richard.A.Hurst@irs counsel.treas.gov or (202) 622–7180 (not toll-free numbers).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject of the public hearing is the notice of proposed rulemaking (REG–131151–10) that was published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 (76 FR 2852).

Persons, who wish to present oral comments at the hearing that submitted written comments, must submit an outline of the topics to be discussed and the amount of time to be devoted to each topic (signed original and eight (8) copies) by Tuesday, April 19, 2011. A period of 10 minutes is allotted to each person for presenting oral comments. After the deadline for receiving outlines has passed, the IRS will prepare an agenda containing the schedule of speakers. Copies of the agenda will be made available, free of charge, at the hearing or in the Freedom of Information Reading Room (FOIA RR) (Room 1621) which is located at the 11th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., entrance, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

Because of access restrictions, the IRS will not admit visitors beyond the immediate entrance area more than 30 minutes before the hearing starts. For information about having your name placed on the building access list to attend the hearing, see the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document.

Guy R. Traynor,
Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Legal Processing Division, Associate Chief Counsel (Procedure and Administration).

[FR Doc. 2011–7670 Filed 3–31–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830–01–P

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

29 CFR Chapter XL

Reducing Regulatory Burden; Review Under E.O. 13563

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) is reviewing its regulations in response to the President’s Executive Order 13563 on Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review. The purpose of this review is to make PBGC’s regulatory program both more effective and less burdensome. We are starting by identifying regulations for possible modification, streamlining, or repeal, which will be incorporated into a preliminary regulatory review plan. For now, we are asking the public for ideas and information—to suggest candidate regulations for review, alternative approaches, etc.—to help prepare the preliminary plan. There will be additional opportunities for public comment after the preliminary plan is developed and approved.

DATES: PBGC requests that written comments and information on developing the preliminary plan be submitted by April 20, 2011. PBGC will take into consideration comments received after that date to the extent feasible.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Catherine B. Klon, Manager, (klon.catherine@pbgc.gov), or Daniel S. Liebman, Attorney, (liebman.daniel@pbgc.gov), Regulatory and Policy Division, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202–326–4024. (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1–800–877–8339 and ask to be connected to 202–326–4024.)

ADDRESSES: Comments, identified by “Regulatory Review”, may be submitted by any of the following methods:

  • E-mail: reg.comments@pbgc.gov.
  • Fax: 202–326–4224.
  • Mail or Hand Delivery: Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005–4026.

Comments received, including personal information provided, will be posted to http://www.pbgc.gov. Copies
of comments may also be obtained by writing to Disclosure Division, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington DC 20005–4026, or calling 202–326–4040 during normal business hours. (TTY and TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1–800–877–8339 and ask to be connected to 202–326–4040.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** PBGC protects the pensions of about 44 million people in about 29,000 private defined benefit plans. PBGC receives no funds from general tax revenues. Operations are financed by insurance premiums, investment income, assets from pension plans trustee by PBGC, and recoveries from the companies formerly responsible for the trusted plans.

To carry out these functions, PBGC issues regulations interpreting such matters as the termination process for defined benefit plans, establishment of procedures for premium payments, reporting and disclosure, and assessment and collection of employer liability. Regulatory objectives and priorities are developed in the context of PBGC’s statutory purposes:

- To encourage voluntary private pension plans;
- To provide for the timely and uninterrupted payment of pension benefits; and
- To keep premiums at the lowest possible levels.

PBGC’s intent is to issue regulations that implement the law in ways that do not impede the maintenance of existing defined benefit plans or the establishment of new plans. PBGC attempts to minimize administrative burdens on plans and participants, improve transparency, simplify filing, provide relief for small businesses, and assist plans to comply with applicable requirements. PBGC is committed to issuing simple, understandable, and timely regulations to help affected parties.

On January 18, 2011, the President issued Executive Order 13563, “Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review,” to ensure that Federal regulations seek more affordable, less intrusive means to achieve policy goals, and that agencies give careful consideration to the benefits and costs of those regulations. Among other things, the Executive Order directed agencies to develop and submit a preliminary plan within 120 days that will explain how they will periodically review existing significant regulations to identify any regulations that can be made more effective or less burdensome in achieving regulatory objectives. In the spirit of the Executive Order, PBGC is applying the retrospective review to all of PBGC’s existing regulations (not only significant regulations).

PBGC is taking several immediate steps to launch this review of existing regulatory requirements. Consistent with its commitment to public participation, PBGC is soliciting views from the public on how best to conduct its analysis of existing PBGC regulations and how best to identify those regulations that might be modified, streamlined, expanded or repealed. PBGC promulgates regulations in accordance with applicable laws and based on best available information, analyses of different alternatives for agency action, and public participation and input. However, important information as to the consequences of a regulation, including its costs and benefits, comes from practical, real-world experience (both on the part of the public and on the part of the agency) after the regulation has been implemented. Regulated entities and members of the public affected by or interested in PBGC’s regulations are likely to have useful information and perspectives on the benefits and burdens of existing regulatory requirements in light of experience since the regulations were issued. Interested parties may also be well-positioned to identify those rules that are most in need of review. PBGC would find such input helpful as it considers how to prioritize and properly tailor its retrospective review process for PBGC’s regulations. Importantly, engaging the public in an open, transparent process is a crucial step in PBGC’s review of its existing regulations.

Although PBGC expects to eliminate regulations that are no longer warranted, PBGC will also consider strengthening, complementing, or modernizing regulations where necessary or appropriate—including, as relevant, undertaking new rulemakings. PBGC reminds the public that this review is for existing regulations and not proposed regulations and asks the public not to use this process to submit comments on proposed rules.

PBGC intends for its preliminary plan to include an initial list of candidate regulations for retrospective review.

**Questions for the Public**

Below is a list of preliminary questions, the answers to which will assist PBGC in its efforts to develop a preliminary plan for the retrospective review of its existing regulations and to identify those regulations that may benefit from a retrospective review. In addressing these questions, commenters should identify, with specificity, the regulation at issue, providing the Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) cite where available. PBGC also requests that commenters provide, in as much detail as possible, an explanation why they believe a regulation should be modified, streamlined, expanded, or repealed, as well as specific suggestions of ways PBGC can better achieve its regulatory objectives. Particularly where comments relate to a rule’s costs or benefits, comments will be most useful if there are data and experience under the rule available to ascertain the rule’s actual impact. Commenters might also address how PBGC can best obtain and consider accurate, objective information and data about the costs, burdens, and benefits of existing regulations and whether there are existing sources of data that PBGC can use to evaluate the effects of its regulations over time.

PBGC encourages the public to emphasize those rules that have been in effect for a sufficient amount of time to warrant a fair evaluation.

In providing comments, please keep these key considerations in mind:

- Retrospective review does not allow PBGC to contravene requirements of its various statutory mandates. In addition, where PBGC’s discretion has been limited by law, PBGC’s ability to modify, streamline, expand, or repeal regulations is similarly constrained.
- PBGC’s plan will be tailored to reflect PBGC’s resources, rulemaking history, and the volume of regulations at issue.

These questions are not intended to be exhaustive. Commenters may raise other issues or make suggestions unrelated to these questions that they believe would help PBGC develop better regulations.

(1) How can PBGC identify those rules that can and should be changed, streamlined, consolidated, or removed? What factors should PBGC consider in selecting and prioritizing rules for review? PBGC encourages those submitting comments to include a proposed process under which such a review could be regularly undertaken.

(2) Does PBGC have rules or guidance that are duplicative or that have conflicting requirements with other agencies? Does PBGC currently collect information that it does not need or use effectively to achieve regulatory objectives?

(3) Are there regulations that have become unnecessary and can be withdrawn without impairing PBGC’s regulatory programs?
(4) Are there rules that are ineffective and if so, how can they be made effective?

(5) Are there rules that are not tailored to impose the least burden on the public? What are some suggestions that PBGC can use to reduce the burden on such rules as well as suggestions that generally assure that PBGC’s regulations promote and achieve its mission in ways that are efficient and less burdensome?

(6) Are there rules that have become outdated and, if so, how can they be modernized to better accomplish their regulatory objectives?

(7) Are there rules that are still necessary, but which have not operated as well as expected such that a modified, stronger, or slightly different approach is justified?

(8) Are there regulations, or regulatory processes that are unnecessarily complicated or could be streamlined to achieve regulatory objectives more efficiently?

(9) Are there any technological developments that can be leveraged to modify, streamline, or repeal any existing regulatory requirements?

(10) How can PBGC best obtain and consider accurate, objective information and data about the costs, burdens, and benefits of existing regulations? Are there existing sources of data PBGC can use to evaluate the effects of regulations over time?

(11) Are there regulations that are working well that can be expanded or used as a model to fill gaps in other PBGC regulatory programs?

PBGC notes that this Request for Comment is issued solely for information and program-planning purposes. The agency will give careful consideration to the responses, and may use them as appropriate during the retrospective review, but does not anticipate providing a response to each comment submitted. However, all submissions will be made publically available on http://www.regulations.gov. Responses to this Request for Comment do not bind PBGC to any further actions related to the response.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 29th day of March 2011.

Joshua Gothaum,
Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 2011–7805 Filed 3–31–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7709–01–P

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**40 CFR Part 300**

[300-HQ–SFUND–1986–0005; FRL–9289–1]

**National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Deletion of the Norwood PCBs Superfund Site**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 1 is issuing a Notice of Intent to Delete the Norwood PCBs Superfund Site (Site) located in Norwood, Massachusetts, from the National Priorities List (NPL) and requests public comments on this proposed action. The NPL, promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended, is an appendix of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). The EPA and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), have determined that all appropriate response actions under CERCLA, other than operation, maintenance, and five-year reviews, have been completed. However, this deletion does not preclude future actions under CERCLA.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by May 2, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–SFUND–1986–0005, by one of the following methods:

- www.regulations.gov
- E-mail: keefe.daniel@epa.gov
- Fax: 1–617–918–0327
- Mail: Daniel Keefe, U.S. EPA Remedial Project Manager, 5 Post Office Square (OSRR07–1), Boston, MA 02109–3912
- Hand delivery: to the following address: Daniel Keefe, 5 Post Office Square (OSRR07–1), Boston, MA 02109. Such deliveries are only accepted during the EPA’s normal hours of operation (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.), and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

**Instructions:** Direct your comments to Docket ID no. EPA–HQ–SFUND–1986–0005. EPA’s policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through http://www.regulations.gov or e-mail. The http://www.regulations.gov web site is an “anonymous access” system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA without going through http://www.regulations.gov, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD–ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment.

Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

**Docket**

All documents in the docket are listed in the http://www.regulations.gov index. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, will be publicly available only in the hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in http://www.regulations.gov or in hard copy at:

EPA Region 1 Record Center, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109, Phone: 1–617–918–1440, Hours: Mon–Fri 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Norwood Morrill Memorial Library, 33 Walpole Street, Norwood, MA, Phone: 781–769–0200, Hours: Mon–Thurs 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 2 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Daniel Keefe, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1, 5 Post Office Square (OSRR07–1), Boston, MA 02109–3912, (617) 918–1327, or at keefe.daniel@epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the “Rules and Regulations” Section of