date and administrative compliance requirements for new regulations that impose additional reporting, disclosure, or other requirements on insured depository institutions (IDIs), the Federal banking agencies must consider, consistent with the principle of safety and soundness and the public interest, any administrative burdens that such regulations would place on depository institutions, including small depository institutions, and customers of depository institutions, as well as the benefits of such regulations. In addition, section 302(b) of RCDRIA requires new regulations and amendments to regulations that impose additional reporting, disclosures, or other new requirements on IDIs generally to take effect on the first day of a calendar quarter that begins on or after the date on which the regulations are published in final form, with certain exceptions, including for good cause. For the reasons described above, the Board finds good cause exists under section 302 of RCDRIA to publish this interim final rule with an immediate effective date.

As such, the final rule will be effective immediately on publication. Nevertheless, the Board seeks comment on RCDRIA.

F. Use of Plain Language

Section 722 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act requires the Federal banking agencies to use plain language in all proposed and final rules published after January 1, 2000. The Board has sought to present the interim final rule in a simple and straightforward manner. The Board invites comments on whether there are additional steps it could take to make the rule easier to understand. For example:

- Have we organized the material to suit your needs? If not, how could this material be better organized?
- Are the requirements in the regulation clearly stated? If not, how could the regulation be more clearly stated?
- Does the regulation contain language or jargon that is not clear? If so, which language requires clarification?
- Would a different format (grouping and order of sections, use of headings, paragraphing) make the regulation easier to understand? If so, what changes to the format would make the regulation easier to understand?
- What else could we do to make the regulation easier to understand?

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 215
Credit, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority and Issuance

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System amends 12 CFR chapter II as follows:

PART 215—LOANS TO EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS OF MEMBER BANKS (REGULATION O)

1. The authority citation for part 215 is revised to read as follows:


2. In § 215.3:

a. In paragraph (b)(6), remove the words “of this part” and the word “or” at the end of the paragraph;

b. In paragraph (b)(7), remove the period at the end of the paragraph and add “; or” in its place; and

c. Add paragraph (b)(8).

The addition reads as follows:

§ 215.3 Extension of credit.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(8) Except for purposes of § 215.5, a loan:

(i) In which the participation by the Small Business Administration on a deferred basis at 100 percent pursuant to section 1102(a)(1) of Public Law 116–136 (to be codified at 15 U.S.C. 636(a)(2)(F));

(ii) That is made during the period beginning on February 15, 2020, and ending on June 30, 2020; and

(iii) That would not be prohibited by 13 CFR 120.110(o) or rules or interpretations thereof issued by the Small Business Administration.

* * * * *


By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Ann Mitchalk,
Secretary of the Board.
[FR Doc. 2020–0574 Filed 4–20–20; 11:15 am]
BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

19 CFR Part 24

[USCBP–2020–0017; CBP Dec. 20–05]

RIN 1515–AE54

Temporary Postponement of the Time To Deposit Certain Estimated Duties, Taxes, and Fees During the National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID–19) Outbreak

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: In light of the President’s Proclamation Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID–19) (Presidential Proclamation 9994) under the National Emergencies Act on March 13, 2020, and the President’s Executive Order entitled “National Emergency Authority to Temporarily Extend Deadlines for Certain Estimated Payments” authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to exercise the authority under section 318(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, issued on April 18, 2020, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the designee of the Secretary of Homeland Security (U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)), is amending the CBP regulations to temporarily postpone the deadline for importers of record with a significant financial hardship to deposit certain estimated duties, taxes, and fees that they would ordinarily be obligated to pay as of the date of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, for merchandise entered in March or April 2020, for a period of 90 days from the date that the deposit would otherwise have been due but for this emergency action. This temporary postponement does not permit return of any deposits of estimated duties, taxes, and/or fees that have been paid. This temporary postponement also does not apply to entries, or withdrawals from warehouse, subject to certain specified trade remedies, and any entry summary that includes merchandise subject to those trade remedies is not eligible under this rule.


Comments must be received by May 20, 2020.

I. Public Participation

Interested persons are invited to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or comments. CBP also invites comments on the specific portion of the rule, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include data, information, or authority that support such recommended change.

II. Background

On March 13, 2020, the President issued Proclamation 9994, Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID–19), under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) and found and proclaimed that the COVID–19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020. On April 18, 2020, the President issued the Executive Order entitled “National Emergency Authority to Temporarily Extend Deadlines for Certain Estimated Payments” (hereinafter “Postponement of Deposit E.O.”) authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to respond to the national emergency declared by Presidential Proclamation 9994, pursuant to the authority in section 318(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1318(a)). Upon consultation by the Secretary of the Treasury with the designee of the Secretary of Homeland Security (U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)), and for the reasons set forth below, CBP is amending its regulations to respond to the ongoing national emergency.

Due to the COVID–19 pandemic, local, state, and national restrictions have forced the closure of offices of the importing community and those businesses have limited their operations and procedures. Many importers of record will be receiving diminished or no revenue during this time while still incurring costs, including the duties, taxes, and fees associated with imported merchandise for their clients and supply chains. Aggravating matters, many major retail chains and other businesses are closing for business—either voluntarily in response to the President’s call or following state or local government requirements. As a result, importers of record are undergoing significant financial hardship with operations fully or partially suspended during March or April 2020 due to orders from competent governmental authorities imposing limits on commerce, travel, or group meetings because of COVID–19. Many importers of record are also having difficulty authorizing payments for duties, taxes, and fees on imported merchandise. Employees are having difficulty getting to work or are having technical issues with working remotely, making it difficult to contact the individuals responsible for the release of funds, which is leading to delays in payments of duties, taxes, and fees.

Under 19 U.S.C. 1318(a), whenever the President shall by proclamation declare an emergency to exist by reason of a state of war, or otherwise, he may authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to extend during the continuance of such emergency the time prescribed for the performance of any act. To address the specific economic impact created by the COVID–19 pandemic, and without creating, for the avoidance of doubt, a binding precedent for future exercises of the authority granted by 19 U.S.C. 1318(a), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the designee of the Secretary of Homeland Security (U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)), under 19 U.S.C. 1318(a) and as authorized by the Postponement of Deposit E.O., is amending the CBP regulations by adding a new section 24.1a to title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR 24.1a) to temporarily postpone the deadline for importers of record to deposit certain estimated duties, taxes, and fees that they would ordinarily be obligated to pay as of the date of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, for merchandise entered in March or April 2020, for a period of 90 days from the date that the deposit would otherwise have been due but for this emergency action. In addition, no interest that would otherwise accrue upon such estimated duties, taxes, and fees will accrue during the 90-day postponement period.

This emergency action is being taken in response to the extraordinary challenges facing U.S. individuals and businesses during the COVID–19 national emergency (which significantly affects the trade community), and is consistent with the Secretary of the Treasury’s decision to postpone due dates for Federal income tax payments under section 7508A(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (available at https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus).

This temporary postponement is limited. This temporary postponement does not permit return of any deposits of estimated duties, taxes, and/or fees that have been paid. This temporary postponement also does not apply to any entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, or any deposit of estimated duties, taxes, or fees for the entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, where the entry summary includes any merchandise subject to one or more of the following: Antidumping duties (assessed pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1673 et seq.), countervailing duties (assessed pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1671 et seq.), duties assessed pursuant to Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1862), duties assessed pursuant to Section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2251 et seq.), and duties assessed pursuant to Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2411 et seq.). Accordingly, CBP anticipates that importers will file separate entries when a shipment contains both merchandise that is eligible for temporary postponement and merchandise that is
ineligible (because of the above-specified trade remedies).

To qualify for this temporary postponement, an importer must demonstrate a significant financial hardship. An eligible importer's operation must be fully or partially suspended during March or April 2020 due to orders from a competent governmental authority limiting commerce, travel, or group meetings because of COVID–19, and as a result of such suspension, the gross receipts of such importer for March 13–31, 2020 or April 2020 are less than 60 percent of the gross receipts for the comparable period in 2019. An eligible importer need not file additional documentation with CBP to be eligible for this relief but must maintain documentation as part of its books and records establishing that it meets the requirements for relief.

This temporary postponement does not apply to deadlines for the payment of other debts to CBP, including but not limited to deadlines for the payment of bills for duties, taxes, fees, and interest determined to be due upon liquidation or reliquidation, deadlines for the payment of fees authorized pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 58c (except for merchandise processing fees and dutiable mail fees), or deadlines for the payment of any penalty or liquidated damages due to CBP.

CBP notes that for some types of entries, the time of entry is contingent (in part) upon the deposit of estimated duties, taxes, and fees. See, e.g., 19 CFR 141.68(b). To ensure clarity in the application of the temporary postponement vis-à-vis the time of entry, this emergency action includes a waiver of the regulatory requirement to deposit estimated duties, taxes, and fees for the publishing of establishing the time of entry in those instances where it would otherwise be required under 19 CFR 141.68. The time of entry can thus be established in the absence of the deposit of estimated duties, taxes, and fees postponed in accordance with this emergency action.

III. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements

A. Inapplicability of Notice and Delayed Effective Date

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requirements in 5 U.S.C. 553 govern agency rulemaking procedures. Section 553(b) of the APA generally requires notice and public comment before issuance of a final rule. In addition, section 553(d) of the APA requires that a final rule have a 30-day delayed effective date. The APA, however, provides exceptions from the prior notice and public comment requirement and the delayed effective date requirements, when an agency for good cause finds that such procedures are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest. 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), (d)(3). CBP finds that prior notice and comment are impracticable and contrary to the public interest and that good cause exists to issue this rule immediately.

As noted above, the ongoing unprecedented situation related to COVID–19 is having a nationwide impact, as demonstrated by the declaration of a national emergency by the President. The postponement of the payment period for the deposit of certain estimated duties, taxes, and fees as of the date of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, of merchandise imported into the United States supports American workers and businesses who are currently affected by COVID–19. To protect our public interests during the ongoing national emergency, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with CBP, concludes, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), that there is good cause to dispense with prior public notice and the opportunity to comment on this rule before finalizing this rule. For the same reasons, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with CBP, has determined, consistent with section 553(d)(3) of the APA, that there is good cause to make this temporary final rule effective immediately.

B. Executive Orders 13563, 12866 and 13771

Executive Orders 13563 and 12866 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). Executive Order 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. Executive Order 13771 directs agencies to reduce regulation and control regulatory costs and provides that “for every one new regulation issued, at least two prior regulations be identified for elimination, and that the cost of planned regulations be prudently managed and controlled through a budgeting process.”

This temporary final rule is a “significant regulatory action” under section 6(a)(1) of Executive Order 12866, but not an “economically significant regulatory action.” Accordingly, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has reviewed this regulation. This regulation has been prepared under the emergency flexibilities provided under section 6(a)(3)(D) of Executive Order 12866. The costs of this rule are considered de minimis for purposes of Executive Order 13771. See OMB’s Memorandum titled “Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled ‘Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs’” (April 5, 2017).

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996, requires an agency to prepare and make available to the public a regulatory flexibility analysis that describes the effect of a proposed rule on small entities (i.e., small businesses, small organizations, and small governmental jurisdictions) when the agency is required to publish a general notice of proposed rulemaking for a rule. Since a general notice of proposed rulemaking is not necessary for this rule, CBP is not required to prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis for this rule.

D. Paperwork Reduction Act

This temporary final rule does not impose an additional information collection burden under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507) and does not involve any material change to the existing approved information collection by OMB under assigned OMB control number 1651–0078. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid control number assigned by OMB.

E. Signing Authority

This document is being issued by CBP in accordance with § 0.1(a)(1) of the CBP Regulations (19 CFR 0.1(a)(1)) pertaining to the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury (or his/her delegate) to approve regulations related to certain customs revenue functions.

List of Subjects in 19 CFR Part 24

Accounting, Claims, Harbors, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Taxes.

Amendments to the Regulations

For the reasons stated above, part 24 of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR part 24) is amended as set forth below:
PART 24—CUSTOMS FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE

1. The general authority citation for part 24 continues and a new specific authority is added to read as follows:


2. Section 24.1a is added to read as follows:

§ 24.1a Temporary Postponement of Deadline to Deposit Certain Estimated Duties, Taxes, and Fees Because of the COVID–19 National Emergency

(a) General. Pursuant to the authority of 19 U.S.C. 1318(a), subject to the conditions in paragraphs (a)(1) through (4) of this section, the deadline for the deposit of estimated duties, taxes, and fees that an importer of record would ordinarily be obligated to pay as of the date of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, of imported merchandise into the United States is postponed for a period of 90 days from the date that the deposit would otherwise have been due. No interest will accrue for the delayed deposit of such estimated duties, taxes, and fees during this 90-day temporary postponement.

(b) Time of entry. For entries eligible for the temporary postponement of deposits under paragraph (a) of this section, the requirement to deposit estimated duties, taxes, and fees for the purpose of establishing the time of entry stated in 19 CFR 141.68 is waived.

Mark A. Morgan,
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.


Timothy E. Skud,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

19 CFR Chapter I

Notification of Temporary Travel Restrictions Applicable to Land Ports of Entry and Ferries Service Between the United States and Canada


ACTION: Notification of continuation of temporary travel restrictions.

SUMMARY: This document announces the decision of the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary) to continue to temporarily limit the travel of individuals from Canada into the United States at land ports of entry along the United States-Canada border. Such travel will be limited to “essential travel,” as further defined in this document.

DATES: These restrictions go into effect at 12 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on April 21, 2020 and will remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. EDT on May 20, 2020.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 24, 2020, DHS published notice of the Secretary’s decision to temporarily limit the travel of individuals from Canada into the United States at land ports of entry along the United States-Canada border to “essential travel,” as further defined in that document.1 The document described the developing circumstances regarding the COVID–19 pandemic and stated that, given the outbreak and continued transmission and spread of COVID–19 within the United States and globally, the Secretary had determined that the risk of continued transmission and spread of COVID–19 between the United States and Canada posed a “specific threat to human life or national interests.” The Secretary’s action is currently scheduled to expire at 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 20, 2020.

The Secretary has continued to monitor and respond to the COVID–19 pandemic. As of April 19, there are over 2.2 million confirmed cases globally, with over 152,000 confirmed deaths.2 There are over 720,000 confirmed cases within the United States,3 over 32,000 in Canada,4 and over 6,800 in Mexico.5

Notice of Action

Given the outbreak and continued transmission and spread of COVID–19 within the United States and globally, I have determined that the risk of continued transmission and spread of

1 85 FR 16548 (Mar. 24, 2020). That same day, DHS also published notice of the Secretary’s decision to temporarily limit the travel of individuals from Mexico into the United States at land ports of entry along the United States-Mexico border to “essential travel,” as further defined in that document. 85 FR 16547 (Mar. 24, 2020).