

particularity the provisions of the order deemed objectionable, stating the grounds therefor, and requesting a public hearing upon such objections. The filing of the objections operates to delay the effective date of the final order until we take final action on the objections.<sup>1</sup> Our announcement of the delay of the effective date of the final order does not reflect a change in our determination that there is a reasonable certainty of no harm from the use of this color additive under the proposed conditions of its intended use. In addition, this notification does not constitute a determination that all of the issues raised in the submission constitute objections or that a hearing is justified on any objections or requests for hearing that have been filed.

For access to the docket to read the objections received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number FDA-2024-C-3384 into the "Search" box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

**Grace R. Graham,**

*Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### 22 CFR Part 135

[Public Notice: 12969]

**RIN 1400-AG20**

#### Amendments to HAVANA Act of 2021 Implementation Rules

##### *Correction*

In rule document 2026-05113 beginning on page 12509 in the issue of Monday, March 16, 2026, make the following correction:

##### **§ 135.3 [Corrected]**

■ 1. On page 12510, in § 135.3, in the second column, in the sixth and seventh lines from the bottom, "March 16, 2026, have until March 16, 2026" should read "March 16, 2026, have until May 15, 2026".

[FR Doc. C1-2026-05113 Filed 3-23-26; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau

#### 27 CFR Part 9

[Docket No. TTB-2023-0012; T.D. TTB-204; Notice No. 230]

**RIN 1513-AD07**

#### Establishment of the Nashoba Valley Viticultural Area

**AGENCY:** Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Final rule; Treasury decision.

**SUMMARY:** The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) establishes the approximately 18,367-acre "Nashoba Valley" American viticultural area (AVA) in Worcester County, Massachusetts. The Nashoba Valley viticultural area is not located within, nor does it contain, any other established viticultural area. TTB designates viticultural areas to allow vintners to better describe the origin of their wines and to allow consumers to better identify wines they may purchase.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective April 23, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Karen A. Thornton, Regulations and Rulings Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street NW, Box 12, Washington, DC 20005; phone 202-453-1039, ext. 175.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Background on Viticultural Areas

##### *TTB Authority*

Section 105(e) of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (FAA Act), 27 U.S.C. 205(e), authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to prescribe regulations for the labeling of wine, distilled spirits, and malt beverages. The FAA Act provides that these regulations should, among other things, prohibit consumer deception and the use of misleading statements on labels and ensure that labels provide the consumer with adequate information as to the identity and quality of the product. The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) administers the FAA Act pursuant to section 1111(d) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, codified at 6 U.S.C. 531(d). In addition, the Secretary of the Treasury has delegated certain administrative and enforcement authorities to TTB through Treasury Order 120-01.

Part 4 of the TTB regulations (27 CFR part 4) authorizes TTB to establish

definitive viticultural areas and regulate the use of their names as appellations of origin on wine labels and in wine advertisements. Part 9 of the TTB regulations (27 CFR part 9) sets forth standards for the preparation and submission of petitions for the establishment or modification of American viticultural areas (AVAs) and lists the approved AVAs.

##### *Definition*

Section 4.25(e)(1)(i) of the TTB regulations (27 CFR 4.25(e)(1)(i)) defines a viticultural area for American wine as a delimited grape-growing region having distinguishing features as described in part 9 of the regulations and, once approved, a name and a delineated boundary codified in part 9 of the regulations. These designations allow vintners and consumers to attribute a given quality, reputation, or other characteristic of a wine made from grapes grown in an area to the wine's geographic origin. The establishment of AVAs allows vintners to describe more accurately the origin of their wines to consumers and helps consumers to identify wines they may purchase. Establishment of an AVA is neither an approval nor an endorsement by TTB of the wine produced in that area.

##### *Requirements*

Section 4.25(e)(2) of the TTB regulations (27 CFR 4.25(e)(2)) outlines the procedure for proposing an AVA and allows any interested party to petition TTB to establish a grape-growing region as an AVA. Section 9.12 of the TTB regulations (27 CFR 9.12) prescribes standards for petitions to establish or modify AVAs. Petitions to establish an AVA must include the following:

- Evidence that the area within the proposed AVA boundary is nationally or locally known by the AVA name specified in the petition;
- An explanation of the basis for defining the boundary of the proposed AVA;
- A narrative description of the features of the proposed AVA affecting viticulture, such as climate, geology, soils, physical features, and elevation, that make the proposed AVA distinctive and distinguish it from adjacent areas outside the proposed AVA;
- If the proposed AVA is to be established within, or overlapping, an existing AVA, an explanation that both identifies the attributes of the proposed AVA that are consistent with the existing AVA and explains how the proposed AVA is sufficiently distinct from the existing AVA and therefore appropriate for separate recognition;

<sup>1</sup> Although the statute uses the word "stay," this delay effectuates the same result.