

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury

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Washington, DC 20224

Person to Contact:

Telephone Number:

Refer Reply To:
CC:PSI:3-PLR-126758-01
Date:
March 26, 2003

X =

Y =

A =

B =

d1 =

d2 =

Dear :

This letter responds to your letter dated April 16, 2001 and supplemental correspondence, requesting a ruling under § 301.9100-3(a) of the Procedure and Administration Regulations that X be granted an extension of time to make an election to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

X was created on d1, as a limited liability company. At the time X was created, X's owners, Y and A, intended that X be classified as a partnership. X retained B to act as its accountant and to make the required election under § 301.7701(3)(a) to treat X as a partnership. B failed to make the required election within the applicable time period, as required by § 301.7701-3(c)(iii).

X submitted a ruling request on d2 for relief under §§ 301.9100-1 and 301-9100-3 for entity classification retroactive to its formation on d1.

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Section 301.7701-1(b) provides that the classification of organizations that are recognized as separate entities is determined under §§ 301.7701-2, 301.7701-3 and 301.7701-4. Section 301.7701-3(a) provides 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.

Section 301.7701-3(b)(2)(i) provides that, except as provided in § 301.7701-(b)(3), unless the entity elects otherwise, a foreign eligible entity is a partnership if it has two or more members and at least one member does not have limited liability, an association if all members have limited liability, or 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 that 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 that an eligible entity may elect to be classified other than as provided in § 301.7701-3(b) by filing a Form 8832, Entity Classification Election, with the service center designated on Form 8832.

Section 301.7701-3(c)(1)(ii) provides that an eligible entity required to file a federal tax or information return for the taxable year for which the election is made must attach a copy of its Form 8832 to its federal tax or information return for that year. If the entity is not required to file a return for that year, a copy of its Form 8832 must be attached to the federal income tax or information return of any direct or indirect owner of the entity for the taxable year of the owner that includes the date on which the election is effective.

Section 301.7701-3(c)(iii) provides that an election made under § 301.7701-3 shall be effective on the date specified 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 301.9100-1(a) provides that the regulations under § 301.9100-2 and § 301.9100-3 provide standards the Commissioner will use to determine whether to grant an extension of time to make a regulatory election under this section. Section 301.9100-1(a) further provides that § 301.9100-3 provides extensions of time for making regulatory elections that do not meet the requirements of § 301.9100-2. Section 301.9100-1(b) provides that a regulatory election includes an election whose due date is prescribed by a regulation published in the Federal Register.

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

Section 301.9100-3(b)(1)(v) provides that, subject to § 301.9100-3(b)(3)(i) through (iii), a taxpayer is deemed to have acted reasonably and in good faith if the taxpayer reasonably relied on a qualified tax professional, including a tax professional

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employed by the taxpayer, and the tax professional failed to make, or advise the taxpayer to make, the election.

Section 301.9100-3(b)(3) provides that a taxpayer is deemed not to have acted reasonably and in good faith if the taxpayer: (i) seeks to alter a return position for which an accuracy-related penalty has been or could be imposed under § 6662 at the time the taxpayer requests relief (taking into account any qualified amended return filed within the meaning of § 1.6664-2(c)(3) of the Income Tax Regulations); (ii) was informed in all material respects of the required election and related tax consequences, but chose not to file the election; or (iii) uses hindsight in requesting relief.

Section 301.9100-3(c)(1) provides that the Commissioner will grant a reasonable extension of time to make a regulatory election only when the interests of the government will not be prejudiced by granting relief.

Based on the facts submitted and the 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 60 days from the date of this ruling to submit a Form 8832, effective on d1, to the appropriate service center. A copy of this letter should be attached to the election. A copy is included for that purpose.

Except as specifically set forth above, we express or imply no opinion concerning the federal tax consequences of the facts described above under any other provision of the Internal Revenue Code. The rulings contained in this letter are 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 request for rulings, it is subject to verification on examination.

Pursuant to a power of attorney on file with this office, we are sending a copy of this letter to your authorized representative.

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

Sincerely,

Heather C. Maloy
Associate Chief Counsel
Passthroughs and Special Industries

Enclosures (2)

A copy of this letter

A copy for § 6110 purposes