

4. If the petitioner provides any other acceptable proof of re-exportation or destruction, then the claim will be regularized upon payment of \$100.

5. Small dollar value carnets. If the assessed amount for breach of a carnet is \$100 or less (including carnets for zero duties), the claim still must be assessed. It is possible, based upon the type of proof of re-exportation or destruction provided, that payment of a regularization fee in excess of the assessed liquidated damages amount could occur. Unlike other liquidated damages claims, the amount of the bond does not limit liability for payment of the regularization fee, which is a fee for service. (See section F. below)

D. Partial Re-exportation or Destruction

1. In any situation where partial re-exportation or destruction occurs, if that re-exportation or destruction occurs within the carnet period and proof of re-exportation or destruction other than an unconditional discharge by a Customs officer is provided, Customs will collect a regularization fee with regard to that portion of merchandise for which adequate proof of re-exportation or destruction is provided.

2. If the partial re-exportation or destruction occurs beyond the carnet period, mitigation may be afforded (see Section E. below).

3. Full liquidated damages will be charged on that portion of the merchandise for which neither proof of re-exportation or destruction is provided. Partial liquidated damages and a regularization fee could be collected in closure of the same carnet.

4. If a re-exportation counterfoil showing an unconditional discharge as to part of a shipment of merchandise is provided timely, no collection will be made as to that merchandise.

E. Late Re-exportation

1. If merchandise is re-exported (or destroyed) after the one-year period and a re-exportation counterfoil indicating unconditional discharge by a Customs officer is provided timely, the claim shall be cancelled without payment.

2. If merchandise is re-exported (or destroyed) 180 days or more after the expiration of the carnet period and a re-exportation counterfoil indicating an unconditional discharge by a Customs officer is not provided, no relief from the claim shall be afforded.

3. If merchandise is re-exported (or destroyed) more than 90 days but less than 180 days after the expiration of the carnet period and adequate proof of re-exportation or destruction other than a re-exportation counterfoil with an unconditional discharge by a Customs

officer is provided, the claim for liquidated damages may be cancelled upon payment of 50 percent of the liquidated damages assessed amount but not less than \$100.

4. If merchandise is re-exported (or destroyed) 90 days or less after the expiration of the carnet period and adequate proof of re-exportation or destruction other than an exportation counterfoil with an unconditional discharge by a Customs officer is provided, the claim for liquidated damages may be cancelled upon payment of 25 percent of the claim but not less than \$50.

F. Late Re-exportation of Duty Free and Zero Duty Merchandise

1. If merchandise is duty free or has a zero duty rate, claims for liquidated damages should still be assessed.

2. Claims for duty free and zero duty carnets will be processed in accordance with these guidelines.

G. Issuance of Claims

1. If a claim is received by the USCIB after the one-year period has expired, the claim will not be pursued.

2. Claims issued by Customs more than 30 days prior to the end of the one-year period will be presumed to be timely.

3. Claims should be issued by Customs as promptly as possible after discovery.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[FI-28-96]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13(44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, FI-28-96 (TD 8801), Arbitrage Restrictions on Tax-Exempt Bonds (§ 1.148-5).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before June 18, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Glenn Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Larnice Mack (202) 622-3179, or through the internet (Larnice.Mack@irs.gov), Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Arbitrage Restrictions on Tax-Exempt Bonds.

OMB Number: 1545-1490.

Regulation Project Number: FI-28-96.

Abstract: This regulation provides guidance concerning the arbitrage restrictions applicable to tax-exempt bonds issued by state and local governments and contains rules regarding the use of proceeds of state and local bonds to acquire higher yielding investments. The regulation provides safe harbors for establishing the fair market value of all investments purchased for yield restricted defeasance escrows. Further, the regulation requires that issuers must retain certain records and information with the bond documents. The recordkeeping requirements are necessary for the IRS to determine that an issuer of tax-exempt bonds has not paid more than fair market value for nonpurpose investments under section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection.

Affected Public: State, local, or tribal governments, and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,400.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 1 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,425.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

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 OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and

tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the

agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection

techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: April 12, 2002.

Glenn Kirkland,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

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