

"Part 179" and adding, in its place, the reference "Part 479".

§ 70.443 [Amended]

■ 105. Section 70.443(a)(1) introductory text is amended by removing the reference "part 178" and adding, in its place, the reference "part 478".

§ 70.444 [Amended]

■ 106. The introductory text of § 70.444 is amended by removing the reference "Part 47" wherever it occurs and adding in its place the reference "Part 447", and by removing the reference "parts 178 and 179" and adding, in its place, the reference "parts 478 and 479".

§ 70.445 [Amended]

■ 107. The introductory text of § 70.445 is amended by removing the reference "Part 55" and adding, in its place, the reference "Part 555".

§ 70.448 [Amended]

■ 108. Section 70.448(a)(1) is amended by removing the reference "part 179" and adding, in its place, the reference "part 479".

§ 70.462 [Amended]

■ 109. Section 70.462 is amended by removing the words "27 CFR part 196 relating to stills;"

■ 110. Section 70.471 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.471 Rulings.

(a) *Requests for rulings.* Any person who is in doubt as to any matter arising in connection with the following may request a ruling thereon by addressing a letter to the appropriate TTB officer:

(1) Operations or transactions in the alcohol tax area (26 U.S.C. chapter 51), the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (27 U.S.C. chapter 8, including the Alcohol Beverage Labeling Act of 1988), or the Webb-Kenyon Act (27 U.S.C. 122);

(2) Operations or transactions in the tobacco tax area (26 U.S.C. chapter 52);

(3) Operations or transactions in the firearms and ammunition manufacturers excise tax area (26 U.S.C. 4181–4182);

(4) Subchapters F and G of chapter 32 of the IRC insofar as they relate to activities administered and enforced with respect to sections 4181 and 4182 of the IRC; and

(5) Subtitle F of the IRC insofar as it relates to any of the foregoing.

(b) *Routine requests for information.* Routine requests for information should be addressed to the appropriate TTB officer.

(c) *Matters under ATF jurisdiction.* For rulings on matters under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Alcohol,

Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (Department of Justice), contact the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Public and Governmental Affairs, 99 New York Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20226, or view the contact information posted online at <http://www.atf.gov/contact/>.

§ 70.486 [Amended]

■ 111. Section 70.486 is amended by removing the words "an TTB employee" and adding, in their place, the words "a TTB employee".

§ 70.701 [Amended]

■ 112. In § 70.701:

■ a. Paragraph (d)(2)(i)(A) is amended by removing the words "An "TTB Ruling"" and adding, in their place, the words "A "TTB Ruling""; and

■ b. Paragraph (d)(2)(i)(B) is amended by removing the words "An "TTB Procedure"" and adding, in their place, the words "A "TTB Procedure"".

■ 113. In § 70.802, paragraph (g) is revised to read as set forth below.

§ 70.802 Rules for disclosure of certain specified matters.

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(g) *Comments received in response to a notice of proposed rulemaking.* (1) The Bureau will post written comments received in response to a notice of proposed rulemaking to the appropriate rulemaking docket on the Regulations.gov Web site at <http://www.regulations.gov>. The Bureau reserves the right not to post lengthy paper comments or attachments requiring scanning, although a notice regarding the receipt of any such non-posted comments or attachments will be made to Regulations.gov. TTB will not post duplicate or anonymous comments to Regulations.gov.

(2) All comments and attachments received in response to a notice of proposed rulemaking may be inspected by any person in the Bureau's public reading room by appointment during normal business hours. Copies of comments (or portions therefore) also may be obtained. Appointment and copy requests may be addressed to the appropriate TTB officer in writing to the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Washington, DC 20220, or by telephone at 202–453–2270. A person requesting copies should allow a reasonable time for processing the request. The provisions of 31 CFR 1.7, relating to fees, apply to requests made in accordance with this paragraph.

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§ 70.803 [Amended]

■ 114. In § 70.803(f):

- a. The first sentence is amended by removing the word "TTBF" and adding, in its place, the word "TTB"; and
- b. The second sentence is amended by removing the word "ATF" each place it occurs and adding, in its place, the word "TTB".

PART 71—RULES OF PRACTICE IN PERMIT PROCEEDINGS

■ 115. The authority citation for part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 5271, 5181, 5712, 5713, 7805, 27 U.S.C. 204.

§ 71.27 [Amended]

■ 116. Section § 71.27 is amended by removing "appeal" at the end of the section and adding, in its place, "appeal".

§ 71.108 [Amended]

■ 117. Section 71.108(a) is amended by removing the parenthetical phrase "(Form 1430–B)" and adding, in its place, the parenthetical phrase "(on TTB F 5000.5)".

§ 71.110 [Removed]

■ 118. Remove § 71.110.

Signed: October 15, 2010.

John J. Manfreda,
Administrator.

Approved: October 22, 2010.

Timothy E. Skud,
Deputy Assistant Secretary (Tax, Trade, and Tariff Policy).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

31 CFR Part 548

Belarus Sanctions Regulations

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC") is amending the Belarus Sanctions Regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations to revoke a general license authorizing U.S. persons to engage until May 31, 2011, in otherwise prohibited transactions with two blocked entities, Lakokraska OAO and/or Polotsk Steklovokno OAO.

DATES: *Effective Date:* This rule is effective February 11, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Assistant Director for Compliance,

Outreach & Implementation, tel.: 202/622-2490, Assistant Director for Licensing, tel.: 202/622-2480, Assistant Director for Policy, tel.: 202/622-4855, Office of Foreign Assets Control, or Chief Counsel (Foreign Assets Control), tel.: 202/622-2410, Office of the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury (not toll free numbers).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic and Facsimile Availability

This document and additional information concerning OFAC are available from OFAC's Web site (<http://www.treas.gov/ofac>). Certain general information pertaining to OFAC's sanctions programs also is available via facsimile through a 24-hour fax-on-demand service, tel.: 202/622-0077.

Background

Following the December 19, 2010 presidential elections in Belarus and the announcement by state-run media on election night that President Lukashenko had received approximately 80 percent of the vote, some opposition candidates and their supporters gathered at Independence Square in the Belarusian capital, Minsk, to protest. Belarusian riot police beat and arrested over 600 protesters, including most of the opposition candidates and many journalists, human rights activists, and civil society representatives. Press reports indicate that as of January 18, at least 31 protesters (including several opposition candidates) remain in jail, facing up to 15 years in prison on charges of organizing or participating in mass riots. Since the demonstration, the government has engaged in a further crackdown against offices and members of political parties, civil society and independent media.

While the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's (OSCE) Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) noted that the presidential election showed certain improvements over previous elections, ODIHR observed significant flaws during the vote count. ODIHR determined that the lack of transparency in the vote count undermined any improvements in the electoral process. The post-election violence further marred the presidential elections and drew condemnation from the United States and the European Union. On December 23, 2010, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and EU High Representative Catherine Ashton issued a joint statement calling for the immediate release of all opposition protesters taken into custody following the presidential elections. Secretary Clinton and High Representative Ashton

also deemed the flawed vote count and post-election violence an "unfortunate step backwards" for democracy and human rights in Belarus.

In light of these recent developments and the decision by the Government of Belarus to close the Minsk office of the OSCE, OFAC is amending the Belarus Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR part 548 (the "Regulations"), to revoke the general license in section 548.509 authorizing U.S. persons to engage until May 31, 2011, in all otherwise prohibited transactions with two blocked entities, Lakokraska OAO and/or Polotsk Stoklovolochno OAO. This license had been issued in 2008 in response to the Belarusian Government's release of its political prisoners. The revocation of the general license in section 548.509 of the Regulations will be effective on February 11, 2011. This delayed effective date gives U.S. persons a reasonable period of time to wind down and terminate any transactions previously entered into with Lakokraska OAO and/or Polotsk Stoklovolochno OAO under section 548.509 of the Regulations.

Public Participation

Because the amendments of the Regulations involve a foreign affairs function, the provisions of Executive Order 12866 and the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) requiring notice of proposed rulemaking, opportunity for public participation, and delay in effective date are inapplicable. Because no notice of proposed rulemaking is required for this rule, the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) does not apply.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The collections of information related to the Regulations are contained in 31 CFR part 501 (the "Reporting, Procedures and Penalties Regulations"). Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), those collections of information have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1505-0164. 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.

List of Subjects in 31 CFR Part 548

Administrative practice and procedure, Banks, Banking, Belarus, Blocking of assets, Credit, Foreign trade, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Securities, Services.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Department of the

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control amends 31 CFR part 548 as follows:

PART 548—BELARUS SANCTIONS REGULATIONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 548 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 3 U.S.C. 301; 31 U.S.C. 321(b); 50 U.S.C. 1601-1651, 1701-1706; Pub. L. 101-410, 104 Stat. 890 (28 U.S.C. 2461 note); Pub. L. 110-96, 121 Stat. 1011 (50 U.S.C. 1705 note); E.O. 13405, 71 FR 35485; 3 CFR, 2007 Comp., p. 231.

Subpart E—Licenses, Authorizations, and Statements of Licensing Policy

§ 548.509 [Removed]

■ 2. Remove § 548.509.

Dated: January 25, 2011.

Adam J. Szubin,

Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

49 CFR Parts 171 and 173

[Docket No. PHMSA-2010-0017 (HM-245)]

RIN 2137-AE56

Hazardous Materials: Incorporation of Certain Cargo Tank Special Permits Into Regulations

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is amending the Hazardous Materials Regulations by incorporating provisions contained in certain widely used or longstanding cargo tank special permits that are granted to multiple parties and have established safety records. Special permits allow a company or individual to package or ship a hazardous material in a manner that varies from the regulations provided an equivalent level of safety is maintained. The revisions are intended to provide wider access to the regulatory flexibility offered in the special permits and eliminate the need for numerous renewal requests, thereby facilitating commercial activity and reducing paperwork burdens while continuing to maintain an appropriate level of safety.

DATES: *Effective date:* The effective date of this final rule is March 3, 2011.