# **Rules and Regulations**

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# SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

# 13 CFR Part 107

RIN 3245-AG67

Small Business Investment **Companies: Passive Business Expansion and Technical Clarifications** 

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Final rule; delay of effective date and opportunity for public

comment.

SUMMARY: On December 28, 2016, the Small Business Administration (SBA) published a final rule to expand permitted investments in passive businesses and provide further clarification with regard to investments in such businesses for the Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) Program, with an effective date of January 27, 2017. In the meantime, a memorandum dated January 20, 2017 from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, entitled "Regulatory Freeze Pending Review" calls for agencies to temporarily postpone the effective date of rules not yet effective and invite new public comment. In view of this development, SBA is delaying the effective date of this rule until March 21, 2017, and is inviting additional public comment on the final rule. Any timely public comments received will be considered and any changes to the final rule will be published in the **Federal Register**. **DATES:** The effective date of the SBA final rule published December 28, 2016

(81 FR 95419) is delayed until March 21, 2017. Comments must be received on or before February 19, 2017.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by RIN 3245-AG67, by any of the following methods:

Federal eKulemaking Portal: http:// www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Mail, Hand Delivery/Courier: Theresa Jamerson, Office for Investment and Innovation, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street SW., Washington, DC 20416.

SBA will post comments on http:// www.regulations.gov. If you wish to submit confidential business information (CBI) as defined in the User Notice at http://www.regulations.gov, please submit the information to Theresa Jamerson, Office of Investment and Innovation, 409 Third Street SW., Washington, DC 20416. Highlight the information that you consider to be CBI and explain why you believe this information should be held confidential. SBA will review the information and make the final determination of whether it will publish the information or not.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Theresa Jamerson, Office of Investment and Innovation, (202) 205–7563 or *sbic*@ sba.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is revising the regulations for the Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) program to expand permitted investments in passive businesses and provide further clarification with regard to investments in such businesses. SBICs are generally prohibited from investing in passive businesses under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended (Act). SBIC program regulations provide for two exceptions that allow an SBIC to structure an investment utilizing a passive small business as a pass-through. The first exception provides conditions under which an SBIC may structure an investment through up to two levels of passive entities to make an investment in a non-passive business that is a subsidiary of the passive business directly financed by the SBIC. The second exception, prior to this final rule, enabled a partnership SBIC, with SBA's prior approval, to provide financing to a small business through a passive, wholly-owned C corporation (commonly known as a blocker corporation), but only if a direct financing would cause the SBIC's investors to incur Unrelated Business Taxable Income (UBTI). This final rule clarifies several aspects of the first exception and in the second exception eliminates the prior approval requirement and expands the purposes for which a blocker corporation may be

formed. The final rule also adds new reporting and other requirements for passive investments to help protect SBA's financial interests and ensure adequate oversight and makes minor technical amendments. Finally, this rule makes a conforming change to the regulations regarding the amount of leverage available to SBICs under common control. This change is necessary for consistency with the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, which increased the maximum amount of such leverage to \$350 million.

Dated: January 23, 2017.

#### Michele Schimpp,

Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Investment and Innovation.

[FR Doc. 2017-01809 Filed 1-25-17; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

40 CFR Parts 22, 51, 52, 61, 68, 80, 81, 124, 147, 171, 239, 259, 300, and 770

[FRL-9958-87-OP]

**Delay of Effective Date for 30 Final** Regulations Published by the **Environmental Protection Agency** Between October 28, 2016 and January 17, 2017

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Final rule; delay of effective dates.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Presidential directive as expressed in the memorandum of January 20, 2017, from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, entitled "Regulatory Freeze Pending Review," this action temporarily delays until March 21, 2017, the effective date of the regulations listed in the table below. EPA identified 30 regulations that meet those criteria.

**DATES:** This regulation is effective January 26, 2017. The effective date of each regulation listed in the table below is delayed to a new effective date of March 21, 2017.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sarah Rees, Director, Office of Regulatory Policy and Management, Office of Policy, Mail code 1804, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW., Washington, DC