

also has been determined that section 553(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 5) does not apply to § 1.1374–8T(a)(2) of these regulations. With respect to § 1.1374–10T(c) of these regulations, it has been determined, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), that it would be contrary to the public interest to issue the regulations with notice and public procedure and, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), that good cause exists to dispense with a delayed effective date. The regulations are necessary to provide immediate guidance to taxpayers with respect to the application of the transition rule regarding qualified corporations in section 633(d)(8) of TRA, as amended by TAMRA, and, accordingly, with respect to the application of current section 1374 to asset dispositions which occur during taxable years beginning after December 22, 2004. For applicability of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 6), refer to the Special Analysis section of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in the Proposed Rules section in this issue of the **Federal Register**. Pursuant to section 7805(f) of the Code, these temporary regulations have been submitted to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration for comment on their impact on small business.

Drafting Information

The principal author of these regulations is Stephen R. Cleary of the Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Corporate). Other personnel from Treasury and the IRS participated in their development.

List of Subjects in 26 CFR Part 1

Income taxes, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Adoption of Amendments to the Regulations

■ Accordingly, 26 CFR part 1 is amended as follows:

PART 1—INCOME TAXES

■ **Paragraph 1.** The authority citation for part 1 is amended by adding entries in numerical order to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 7805 * * *
Section 1.1374–8T also issued under 26 U.S.C. 337(d) and 1374(e). * * *
Section 1.1374–10T also issued under 26 U.S.C. 337(d) and 1374(e). * * *

■ **Par. 2.** Section 1.1374–8 is amended by redesignating paragraph (a) as paragraph (a)(1) and adding paragraph (a)(2) to read as follows:

§ 1.1374–8 Section 1374(d)(8) transactions
(a)(1) * * *

(2) (Reserved) For further guidance see § 1.1374–8T(a)(2).

* * * * *

■ **Par. 3.** Section 1.1374–8T is added to read as follows:

§ 1374–8T 1374(d)(8) transactions (temporary)

(a)(1) (Reserved) For further guidance see § 1374–8(a).

(2) Section 1374(d)(8) transaction, as defined in paragraph (a)(1) of this regulation, that occurs on or after December 27, 1994, without regard to the date of the corporation's election to be an S corporation under section 1362.

(b) through (d) (Reserved) For further guidance see § 1.1374–8(b) through (d).

■ **Par. 4.** Section 1.1374–10 is amended by adding paragraph (c) to read as follows:

§ 1.1374–10 Effective date and additional rules

* * * * *

(c) (Reserved) For further guidance see § 1.1374–10T(c).

■ **Par. 5.** Section 1.1374–10T is added to read as follows:

§ 1.1374–10T Effective date and additional rules (temporary)

(a) through (b)(4) (Reserved) For further guidance see § 1.1374–10(a) through (b)(4).

(c) *Revocation and re-election of S corporation status—(1) In general.* For purposes of section 633(d)(8) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, as amended, any reference to an election to be an S corporation under section 1362 shall be treated as a reference to the corporation's most recent election to be an S corporation under section 1362. This paragraph (c) applies for taxable years beginning after December 22, 2004 without regard to the date of the corporation's most recent election to be an S corporation under section 1362.

(2) *Example.* The following example illustrates the rules of this paragraph(c):

Example. (i) On February 1, 1988, X, a C corporation that is a qualified corporation under section 633(d) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, as amended, elects to be an S corporation under section 1362. On December 1, 1989, X revokes its S status and becomes a C corporation. On January 1, 2004, X again elects to be an S corporation under section 1362. X disposes of assets in 2006, 2007, and 2008, recognizing gain.

(ii) X is not eligible for treatment under the Transition rule of section 633(d)(8) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, as amended, with respect to these assets. Accordingly, X is subject to section 1374, as amended by the Tax Reform Act of 1986 and TAMRA, and the 10-year recognition period begins January 1, 2004.

(iii) To the extent the gain that X recognizes on the asset sales in 2006, 2007,

and 2008 reflects built-in gain inherent in such assets in X's hands on January 1, 2004, such gain is subject to tax under section 1374 as amended by the Tax Reform Act of 1986 and TAMRA.

Mark E. Matthews,

Deputy Commissioner for Services and Enforcement.

Approved: December 15, 2004.

Gregory F. Jenner,

Acting Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 04–28013 Filed 12–21–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

26 CFR Parts 1 and 602

[TD 9168]

RIN 1545–BC13

Optional 10-Year Writeoff of Certain Tax Preferences

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Final regulation.

SUMMARY: This document contains final regulations relating to the optional 10-year writeoff of certain tax preference items under section 59(e) of the Internal Revenue Code (Code). The final regulations affect taxpayers who utilize section 59(e) for the optional 10-year writeoff of certain tax preferences. These final regulations provide guidance on the time and manner of making an election under section 59(e). The regulations also provide guidance on revoking an election under section 59(e). The regulations reflect changes to the law made by the Tax Reform Act of 1986, the Technical and Miscellaneous Revenue Act of 1988, and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989.

DATES: *Effective Date:* This rule is effective December 22, 2004.

Applicability Date: These regulations apply to a section 59(e) election made for a taxable year ending, or a request to revoke a section 59(e) election submitted, on or after December 22, 2004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Paperwork Reduction Act

The collection of information contained in these final regulations has been reviewed and approved by the Office of Management and Budget in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507(d)) under control number 1545–1903. Responses to this collection of

information are required to obtain the benefit of the section 59(e) election.

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 assigned by the Office of Management and Budget.

The estimated annual burden per respondent is one hour.

Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Internal Revenue Service, Attn: IRS Reports Clearance Officer, SE:W:CAR:MP:T:T:SP, Washington, DC 20224, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Attn: Desk Officer for the Department of the Treasury, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Washington, DC 20503.

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.

Background

This document contains amendments to 26 CFR part 1 under section 59(e) of the Code. Section 59(e)(1) allows taxpayers to elect to deduct any qualified expenditure ratably over a 10-year period (3-year period in the case of circulation expenditures described in section 173) beginning with the taxable year in which the expenditure was made (or, in the case of a qualified expenditure under section 263(c), over the 60-month period beginning with the month in which such expenditure was paid or incurred). Section 59(e)(2) defines *qualified expenditure* as any amount that, but for an election under section 59(e), would have been allowed as a deduction (determined without regard to section 291) for the taxable year in which paid or incurred under section 173 (relating to circulation expenditures), section 174 (relating to research and experimental expenditures), section 263(c) (relating to intangible drilling and development expenditures), section 616(a) (relating to development expenditures), or section 617(a) (relating to mining exploration expenditures).

Section 59(e)(4)(A) states that an election under section 59(e) (section 59(e) election) may be made with respect to any portion of any qualified expenditure. The legislative history of section 59(e) suggests that this allows a section 59(e) election to be made "dollar for dollar." See H. R. Rep. 99-426, 99th

Cong., 1st Sess. 327 (1985), 1986-3 (Vol. 2) C.B. 1, 327; S. Rep. No. 99-313, 99th Cong., 2d Sess. 539 (1986), 1986-3 (Vol. 3) C.B. 1, 539.

Section 59(e)(4)(B) states that a section 59(e) election may only be revoked with the consent of the Secretary.

Provisions similar to those currently contained in section 59(e) were originally enacted as section 58(i) under the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-248; 96 Stat. 324). Under section 58(i)(1), the optional 10-year writeoff was available only to individuals. Section 58(i)(5)(C) directed the Secretary to promulgate regulations governing the time and manner for making an election under section 58(i) (section 58(i) election).

Section 5f.0(a)(2)(i)(A) and (B) of the temporary Income Tax Regulations that were promulgated under section 58(i) required that a section 58(i) election be made by the later of the due date (including extensions) of the income tax return for the taxable year for which the election was to be effective, or April 15, 1983. TD 7870, 48 FR 1486. Section 5f.0(a)(3) provided that a section 58(i) election was made by attaching a statement to the income tax return (or amended return) for the taxable year in which the election was made. Section 5f.0 was redesignated as § 301.9100-5T by TD 8435, 57 FR 43893, on October 15, 1992.

Section 59(e) was enacted as part of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-514; 100 Stat. 2085) and, unlike section 58(i), is not limited to individuals. While both the Senate Finance Committee Report and the House Ways and Means Committee Report state that the time and manner of the election would be governed by regulations, Congress did not include a provision similar to former section 58(i)(5)(C) directing the Secretary to promulgate regulations governing the time and manner for making a section 59(e) election. See H. R. Rep. No. 99-426, 99th Cong., 1st Sess. 327 (1985), 1986-3 (Vol. 2) C.B. 1, 327; S. Rep. No. 99-313, 99th Cong., 2d Sess. 539 (1986), 1986-3 (Vol. 3) C.B. 1, 539.

A notice of proposed rulemaking (REG-124405-03 [69 FR 43367]) was published in the **Federal Register** on July 20, 2004. Two requests for a public hearing were received. A public hearing was held on December 7, 2004. The IRS received written and electronic comments responding to the notice of proposed rulemaking. After consideration of all the comments, the proposed regulations are adopted as amended by this Treasury decision. The revisions are discussed below.

Summary of Comments and Explanation of Revisions

Several commentators recommended changes regarding the information taxpayers would be required to submit as part of their section 59(e) election. Specifically, commentators requested that the IRS reconsider § 1.59-1(b)(1)(ii) and (iii) of the proposed regulations, which would require taxpayers to identify (i) the type and amount, for each activity or project, of qualified expenditures identified in section 59(e)(2) the taxpayer elects to deduct ratably over the applicable period described in section 59(e)(1), and (ii) a description of each specific activity or project to which the qualified expenditures relate. The commentators suggest that the majority of taxpayers who incur research and experimentation expenditures under section 174(a) and make a section 59(e) election with respect to such expenditures do not currently maintain records on a project-by-project basis. As a result, the commentators stated that requiring taxpayers to account for their section 59(e) qualified expenditures on a project-by-project basis would be a financial and administrative burden. Some of the commentators also discussed section 1016(a)(20), which provides that proper adjustment in respect of the property shall in all cases be made for amounts allowed as deductions under section 59(e) (relating to optional 10-year writeoff of certain tax preferences). Compliance with section 1016(a)(20) requires that taxpayers be able to account for their section 59(e) expenditures through appropriate basis adjustments for each property, project, or activity.

Sections 1.59-1(b)(1)(ii) and (iii) of the proposed regulations were intended to improve compliance with section 1016(a)(20) by requiring that section 59(e) qualified expenditures be allocated among the properties, projects or activities to which they relate. Comments received regarding this provision indicate that, for taxpayers incurring section 174(a) expenditures, the basis rules of section 1016(a)(20) are only of importance when a project to which a section 59(e) election relates is disposed of, and that it is rare for a research project to be disposed of prior to the full amortization of the allocable section 59(e) qualified expenditures. As such, the commentators argue that the burden of requiring taxpayers to identify on a section 59(e) election the type and amount of qualified expenditures for each activity or project greatly exceeds the potential harm caused by non-compliance with section 1016(a)(20).

Having fully considered all comments received, the final regulations are modified to reflect the comments discussed above. Taxpayers making a section 59(e) election will not be required to identify on the election the type and amount of qualified expenditures for each activity or project nor will they be required to provide a description of each specific activity or project to which the qualified expenditures relate. Instead, taxpayers will be required only to identify the type and amount of qualified expenditures identified in section 59(e)(2) that the taxpayer elects to deduct ratably over the applicable period described in section 59(e)(1). However, taxpayers remain responsible for full compliance with the requirements of section 1016(a)(20). Specifically, taxpayers who allocate their section 59(e) expenditures to reduce the gain otherwise recognized on the disposition of a property, project, or activity must maintain books and records sufficient to support that allocation.

The preamble to the proposed regulations stated that, with respect to an otherwise valid section 59(e) election filed for a taxable year ending prior to the effective date of the final regulations, such election would not be challenged by the IRS merely because the election was made later than the date prescribed by law for filing the taxpayer's original income tax return (including any extensions of time) for the taxable year in which the amortization of the qualified expenditures subject to the section 59(e) election begins. One commentator requested guidance on what the IRS considers an otherwise valid section 59(e) election filed for a tax year ending prior to the effective date of the final regulations. Although the IRS will treat a section 59(e) election prepared in a manner described in the final regulations as sufficient for a tax year ending prior to the effective date of the final regulations, because the final regulations only apply prospectively the final regulations do not provide guidance on what constitutes an otherwise valid section 59(e) election filed for a tax year prior to the effective date of the final regulations.

Special Analyses

It has been determined that this Treasury decision is not a significant regulatory action as defined in Executive Order 12866. Therefore, a regulatory assessment is not required. It also has been determined that section 553(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 5) does not apply

to these regulations. It is hereby certified that the collection of information in these regulations will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This certification is based upon the fact that the reporting burden, as discussed earlier in this preamble, is expected to be insignificant. Therefore, a Regulatory Flexibility Analysis under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 6) is not required. Pursuant to section 7805(f) of the Code, the notice of proposed rulemaking preceding this regulation was submitted to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration for comment on its impact on small business.

Drafting Information

The principal author of these final regulations is Eric B. Lee of the Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Passthroughs and Special Industries). However, other personnel from the IRS and Treasury Department participated in their development.

List of Subjects

26 CFR Part 1

Income taxes, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

26 CFR Part 602

Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Adoption of Amendments to the Regulations

■ Accordingly, 26 CFR parts 1 and 602 are amended as follows:

■ **Paragraph 1.** The authority citation for part 1 reads, in part, as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 7805, * * *

■ **Par. 2.** Section 1.59-1 is added to read as follows:

§ 1.59-1 Optional 10-year writeoff of certain tax preferences.

(a) *In general.* Section 59(e) allows any qualified expenditure to which an election under section 59(e) applies to be deducted ratably over the 10-year period (3-year period in the case of circulation expenditures described in section 173) beginning with the taxable year in which the expenditure was made (or, in the case of intangible drilling and development costs deductible under section 263(c), over the 60-month period beginning with the month in which the expenditure was paid or incurred).

(b) *Election—(1) Time and manner of election.* An election under section 59(e) shall only be made by attaching a statement to the taxpayer's income tax return (or amended return) for the

taxable year in which the amortization of the qualified expenditures subject to the section 59(e) election begins. The statement must be filed no later than the date prescribed by law for filing the taxpayer's original income tax return (including any extensions of time) for the taxable year in which the amortization of the qualified expenditures subject to the section 59(e) election begins. Additionally, the statement must include the following information—

(i) The taxpayer's name, address, and taxpayer identification number; and

(ii) The type and amount of qualified expenditures identified in section 59(e)(2) that the taxpayer elects to deduct ratably over the applicable period described in section 59(e)(1).

(2) *Elected amount.* A taxpayer may make an election under section 59(e) with respect to any portion of any qualified expenditure paid or incurred by the taxpayer in the taxable year to which the election applies. An election under section 59(e) must be for a specific dollar amount and the amount subject to an election under section 59(e) may not be made by reference to a formula. The amount elected under section 59(e) is properly chargeable to a capital account under section 1016(a)(20), relating to adjustments to basis of property.

(c) *Revocation—(1) In general.* An election under section 59(e) may be revoked only with the consent of the Commissioner. Such consent will only be granted in rare and unusual circumstances. The revocation, if granted, will be effective in the first taxable year in which the section 59(e) election was applicable. However, if the period of limitations for the first taxable year the section 59(e) election was applicable has expired, the revocation, if granted, will be effective in the earliest taxable year for which the period of limitations has not expired.

(2) *Time and manner for requesting consent.* A taxpayer requesting the Commissioner's consent to revoke a section 59(e) election must submit the request prior to the end of the taxable year the applicable amortization period described in section 59(e)(1) ends. The application for consent to revoke the election must be submitted to the Internal Revenue Service in the form of a letter ruling request.

(3) *Information to be provided.* A request to revoke a section 59(e) election must contain all of the information necessary to demonstrate the rare and unusual circumstances that would justify granting revocation.

(4) *Treatment of unamortized costs.* The unamortized balance of the

qualified expenditures subject to the revoked section 59(e) election as of the first day of the taxable year the revocation is effective is deductible in the year the revocation is effective (subject to the requirements of any other provision under the Code, regulations, or any other published guidance) and the taxpayer will be required to amend any federal income tax returns affected by the revocation.

(d) *Effective date.* These regulations apply to a section 59(e) election made for a taxable year ending, or a request to revoke a section 59(e) election submitted, on or after December 22, 2004.

PART 602—OMB CONTROL NUMBERS UNDER THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

■ **Par. 3.** The authority citation for part 602 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 7805.

■ **Par. 4.** In § 602.101, paragraph (b) is amended by adding an entry in numerical order to the table to read as follows:

§ 602.101 OMB Control numbers.

* * * * *				
(b) * * *				
CFR part or section where identified and described				Current OMB control No.
* * * *				*
1.59-1				1545-1903
* * * *				*

Approved: December 15, 2004.

Mark E. Matthews,

Deputy Commissioner for Services and Enforcement.

Gregory F. Jenner,

Acting Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Tax Policy).

[FR Doc. 04-27917 Filed 12-21-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[FRL-7852-2]

Availability of Federally-Enforceable State Implementation Plans for All States

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Section 110(h) of the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990 (the "Act"), requires EPA by November 15, 1995, and every three years thereafter, to assemble the requirements of the Federally-enforceable State Implementation Plans (SIPs) in each State and to publish notice in the **Federal Register** of the availability of such documents. This notice of availability fulfills the three-year requirement of making these SIP compilations for each State available to the public.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 22, 2004.

ADDRESSES: You may contact the appropriate EPA Regional Office regarding requirements of applicable implementation plans for each State in that region. The list below identifies the appropriate regional office for each state. The SIP compilations are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the appropriate EPA Regional Office. If you want to view these documents, you should make an appointment with the appropriate EPA office and arrange to review the SIP at a mutually agreeable time.

Region 1: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Regional Contact: Donald Cooke (617/918-1668), EPA, Office of Ecosystem Protection (CAQ), Suite 1100, One Congress Street, Boston, MA 02114-2023.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/region1/topics/air/sips.html>.

Region 2: New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands.

Regional Contact: Paul Truchan (212/637-3711), EPA, Air Programs Branch, 290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007-1866.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/region02/air/sip/>.

Region 3: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Regional Contact: Harold A. Frankford (215/814-2108), EPA, Office of Air Programs (3AP20), Air Protection Division, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

See also: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r3/r3sips.nsf/MidAtlanticSIPs?openform>.

Region 4: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Regional Contact: Sean Lakeman (404/562-9043), EPA, Air Planning Branch, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Atlanta, GA 30303.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/region4/air/sips/>.

Region 5: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Regional Contacts: Jeremiah Hall (312/353-3503), EPA, Air and Radiation Division, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604-3507.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/ARD-R5/sips/sips.htm>.

Region 6: Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Regional Contact: Bill Deese (214/665-7253), EPA, Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75202-2733.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6pd/air/sip/sip.htm>.

Region 7: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska.

Regional Contact: Evelyn VanGoethem (913-551-7659), EPA, Air, RCRA and Toxics Division, Air Planning and Development Branch, 901 N. 5th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/region07/programs/artd/air/rules/fedapprv.htm>.

Region 8: Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Regional Contact: Laurie Ostrand (303/312-6437), EPA, Air and Radiation Program, Office of Partnership and Regulatory Assistance, 999 18th Street, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80202-2466.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/region8/air/sip.html>.

Region 9: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, and Guam.

Regional Contact: Julie Rose (415/947-4126), and Cynthia Allen (415/947-4120), EPA, Air Division, Rulemaking Office, AIR-4, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/sips/>.

Region 10: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

Regional Contacts: Donna Deneen (206/553-6706) and Debra Suzuki (206/553-0985), EPA, Office of Air Quality (OAQ 107), 1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101.

See also: <http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/sips.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Donald Cooke, Air Quality Unit, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA New England Regional Office, One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (CAQ), Boston, MA 02114-2023, telephone number (617) 918-1668, fax number (617) 918-0668, e-mail cooke.donald@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

Availability of SIP Compilations
What Is the Basis for This Document
What Is Being Made Available Under This Document