

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury

Number: **200143016**

Release Date: 10/26/2001

Index Number: 1362.01-03

Washington, DC 20224

Person to Contact:

Telephone Number:

Refer Reply To:

CC:P&SI:B02-PLR-117504-01

Date:

July 26, 2001

X =

A =

B =

C =

D =

E =

F =

D1 =

Year 1 =

Year 2 =

Dear :

This letter responds to a letter dated March 9, 2001, written on behalf of X by X's authorized representative, requesting a ruling under § 1362(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The information submitted states that A, B, C, D, and E, the shareholders of X, intended that X elect to be an S corporation beginning on D1 of Year 1. X filed a Form 2553, Election by a Small Business Corporation, containing an effective date of D1 of Year 1. However, the service center where X filed the Form 2553 for X's Year 1 taxable year rejected as untimely the Form 2553 for X's Year 1 taxable year. X filed Form 1120, U.S. Corporation Income Tax Return, for Year 1. X and its shareholders were unaware that relief for X's late S corporation election may be available until discussing the issue with F, X's authorized representative, late in Year 2.

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A, B, C, D, and E agree to amend their tax returns consistent with the treatment of X as an S corporation for X's Year 1 taxable year and agree to pay any tax due (with interest) resulting from X being treated as an S corporation for X's Year 1 taxable year.

Section 1362(b)(5) provides that if: (A) an election under § 1362(a) is made for any taxable year after the date prescribed by § 1362(b) for making such election for such taxable year or no such election is made for any taxable year, and (B) the Secretary determines that there was reasonable cause for the failure to timely make such election, the Secretary may treat such an election as timely made for such taxable year.

Based solely on the facts and the representations submitted, we conclude that X has established reasonable cause for failing to make a timely election to be an S corporation for X's Year 1 taxable year. Accordingly, provided that X makes an election to be an S corporation by filing a completed Form 2553 with the appropriate service center effective for its Year 1 taxable year, within 60 days following the date of this letter, then such election will be treated as timely made for X's Year 1 taxable year. A copy of this letter should be attached to the Form 2553. This ruling is conditioned on X, A, B, C, D, and E filing, within 60 days following the date of this letter, amended returns to report consistent with X being an S corporation and A, B, C, D, and E paying any tax due (with interest) for its Year 1 taxable year. A copy of this letter should be attached to each of the amended returns.

Except as specifically set forth above, no opinion is expressed concerning the federal tax consequences of the facts described above under any other provision of the Code, including whether X was or is a small business corporation under § 1361(b).

This ruling is directed only to the taxpayer who requested it. Section 6110(k)(3) provides that it may not be used or cited as precedent.

Pursuant to a power of attorney on file with this office, a copy of this letter is being sent to X's authorized representative.

Sincerely yours,
J. THOMAS HINES
Chief, Branch 2
Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel
(Passthroughs and Special Industries)

Enclosures: 2
Copy of this letter
Copy for section 6110 purposes