

Internal Revenue Service

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Department of the Treasury

Washington, DC 20224

Third Party Communication: None

Date of Communication: Not Applicable

Person To Contact:

, ID No.

Telephone Number:

Refer Reply To:

CC:PSI:B09

PLR-128981-04

Date:

October 28, 2004

In Re:

LEGEND:

Taxpayer =

Date 1 =

Date 2 =

Trust =

Child =

Year 1 =

Year 2 =

\$a =

Accountant =

Dear ,

This is in response to your letter dated May 14, 2004, requesting an extension of time pursuant to § 2642(g) of the Internal Revenue Code and § 301.9100-3 of the Procedure and Administration Regulations to make an allocation of Taxpayer's generation-skipping transfer (GST) tax exemption.

The facts and representations submitted are summarized as follows: On Date 1, which is in Year 1, Taxpayer executed Trust, an inter vivos irrevocable trust, for the benefit of Child and his descendants. Trust provides, in part, that Child has a lifetime income interest and principal distributions may be made for Child's health, maintenance, support and education. Trust further provides, in pertinent part, that at Child's death, Trust property is to be distributed to Child's living issue, per stirpes.

On Date 2, Taxpayer funded Trust with assets that you represent had a value of \$a. Accountant prepared Taxpayer's Form 709, United States Gift (and Generation-Skipping) Tax Return for Year 1. Accountant inadvertently failed to allocate any of Taxpayer's GST exemption to the Year 1 transfer.

As of Date 2, Taxpayer had her entire GST exemption available to allocate to the transfer to Trust. Taxpayer has not executed any other Trusts nor made any gifts in excess of the GST tax annual exclusion under § 2642(c) to her grandchildren during her lifetime, no other contributions have been made to Trust, and Child is the only person who has received distributions from Trust.

After Taxpayer's death in Year 2, the failure to allocate Taxpayer's GST exemption was discovered. Accordingly, in Year 2, a Form 709 was filed to make a late allocation of Taxpayer's GST exemption to the Year 1 transfer to Trust.

The executor of Taxpayer's estate now request that an extension of time be granted under § 2642(g) and § 301.9100-3 to make an allocation of Taxpayer's GST exemption to the Year 1 transfer to trust, effective as of Date 2.

Section 2601 imposes a tax on every generation-skipping transfer (GST). A GST is defined under § 2611(a) as (1) a taxable distribution, (2) a taxable termination, and (3) a direct skip.

Section 2602 provides that the amount of the tax is the taxable amount multiplied by the applicable rate. Section 2641(a) defines "applicable rate" as the product of the maximum federal estate tax rate and the inclusion ratio with respect to the transfer.

Section 2631(a) as in effect on Date 2, provides that, for purposes of determining the inclusion ratio, every individual shall be allowed a GST exemption of \$1,000,000 (adjusted for inflation under § 2631(c)) that may be allocated by such individual (or his executor) to any property with respect to which such individual is the transferor.

Section 2632(a)(1) provides that any allocation by an individual of his or her GST exemption under § 2631(a) may be made at any time on or before the date prescribed for filing the estate tax return for such individual's estate (determined with regard to extensions), regardless of whether such a return is required to be filed.

Section 26.2632-1(b)(2)(i) of the Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax Regulations provides, in part, that an allocation of GST exemption to property transferred during the transferor's lifetime, other than in a direct skip, is made on Form 709. An allocation of GST exemption to a trust is void to the extent the amount allocated exceeds the amount necessary to obtain an inclusion ratio of zero with respect to the trust.

Section 2642(a)(1) provides that the inclusion ratio with respect to any property transferred in a generation-skipping transfer shall be the excess (if any) of 1 over- (A) the applicable fraction determined for the trust from which such transfer is made, or (B) in the case of a direct skip, the applicable fraction determined for such skip.

Section 2642(b)(1) provides that, except as provided in § 2642(f), if the allocation of the GST exemption to any transfers of property is made on a gift tax return filed on or before the date prescribed by § 6075(b) for such transfer or is deemed to be made under § 2632(b)(1) or (c)(1), the value of such property for purposes of § 2642(a) shall be its value as finally determined for purposes of chapter 12 (within the meaning of § 2001(f)(2)), or, in the case of an allocation deemed to have been made at the close of an estate tax inclusion period, its value at the time of the close of the estate tax inclusion period, and such allocation shall be effective on and after the date of such transfer, or, in the case of an allocation deemed to have been made at the close of an estate tax inclusion period, on and after the close of such estate tax inclusion period.

Section 2642(g)(1)(A) provides, generally, that the Secretary shall by regulation prescribe such circumstances and procedures under which extensions of time will be granted to make an allocation of GST exemption described in § 2642(b)(1) or (2), and an election under § 2632(b)(3) or (c)(5). Such regulations shall include procedures for requesting comparable relief with respect to transfers made before the date of the enactment of § 2642(g)(1), which was enacted into law on June 7, 2001.

Section 2642(g)(1)(B) provides that in determining whether to grant relief under this paragraph, the Secretary shall take into account all relevant circumstances, including evidence of intent contained in the trust instrument or instrument of transfer and such other factors as the Secretary deems relevant. For purposes of determining whether to grant relief under this paragraph, the time for making the allocation (or election) shall be treated as if not expressly prescribed by statute.

Notice 2001-50, 2001-2 C.B. 189, provides that under § 2642(g)(1)(B), the time for allocating the GST exemption to lifetime transfers and transfers at death, the time for electing out of the automatic allocation rules, and the time for electing to treat any trust as a generation-skipping trust are to be treated as if not expressly prescribed by statute. The Notice further provides that taxpayers may seek an extension of time to make an allocation described in § 2642(b)(1) or (b)(2) or an election described in § 2632(b)(3) or (c)(5) under the provisions of § 301.9100-3.

Section 301.9100-1(c) provides that the Commissioner has discretion to grant a reasonable extension of time under the rules set forth in §§ 301.9100-2 and 301.9100-3 to make a regulatory election, or a statutory election (but no more than 6 months except in the case of a taxpayer who is abroad), under all subtitles of the Internal Revenue Code except subtitles E, G, H, and I.

Section 301.9100-3 provides the standards used to determine whether to grant an extension of time to make an election whose due date is prescribed by a regulation (and not expressly provided by statute). Under § 301.9100-1(b), a regulatory election includes an election whose due date is prescribed by a notice published in the Internal Revenue Bulletin. In accordance with § 2642(g)(1)(B) and Notice 2001-50, taxpayers may seek an extension of time to make an allocation described in § 2642(b)(1) or (b)(2) or an election described in § 2632(b)(3) or (c)(5) under the provisions of § 301.9100-3.

Requests for relief under § 301.9100-3 will be granted when the taxpayer provides the evidence to establish to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that the taxpayer acted reasonably and in good faith, and that granting relief will not prejudice the interests of the government.

Section 301.9100-3(b)(1)(v) provides that a taxpayer is deemed to have acted reasonably and in good faith if the taxpayer reasonably relied on a qualified tax professional, including a tax professional employed by the taxpayer, and the tax professional failed to make, or advise the taxpayer to make, the election.

Based on the facts submitted and the representations made, we conclude that the requirements of § 301.9100-3 have been satisfied. Therefore, Taxpayer's estate is granted an extension of time of 60 days from the date of this letter to make an allocation of Taxpayer's available GST exemption, with respect to the Year 1 transfer to Trust. The allocation will be effective as of the date of the transfer to Trust, and the gift tax value of the transfer to Trust will be used in determining the amount of GST exemption to be allocated to Trust.

The allocation should be made on a supplemental Form 709 and filed with the Internal Revenue Service Center, Cincinnati, OH 45999. A copy of this letter should be attached to the supplemental Form 709. A copy is enclosed for this purpose.

Except as specifically ruled herein, we express or imply no opinion on the federal tax consequences of the transaction under the cited provisions or under any other provisions of the Code. In addition, we express or imply no opinion regarding the value of the property transferred to Trust.

In accordance with the power of attorney on file with this office, a copy of this letter is being sent to the representative of Taxpayer's estate.

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

The rulings contained in this letter are based upon information and representations submitted by the taxpayer and accompanied by a penalty of perjury statement executed by an appropriate party. While this office has not verified any of the material submitted in support of the request for rulings, it is subject to verification on examination.

Sincerely,

Heather C. Maloy

Heather C. Maloy
Associate Chief Counsel
(Passthroughs & Special Industries)

Enclosures

Copy of letter

Copy for 6110 purposes

cc: