

Number: **201527036**
Release Date: 7/2/2015

This letter ruling responds to a letter from your authorized representative, dated November 13, 2014, requesting an extension of time under §§ 301.9100-1 and 301.9100-3 of the Procedure and Administration Regulations to file an election. The

extension is being requested for Parent and Subsidiaries to make an election to file a consolidated Federal income tax return, with Parent as the common parent, under § 1.1502-75(a)(1) of the Income Tax Regulations (hereinafter referred to as “the Election”), effective for the taxable year ending on Date 1. The material information provided is summarized below.

For the taxable year ending Date 1, Parent was the common parent of an affiliated group of corporations comprised of Parent and Subsidiaries (the “Parent Group”). An election for the Parent Group to file a consolidated income tax return, with Parent as the common parent, for the taxable year ending on Date 1 was due on the last day prescribed by law (including extensions of time) for the filing of Parent's return, but for various reasons, the Election was not filed until Date 2, after the due date for the Election. Subsequently, this request was submitted, under § 301.9100-3, for an extension of time to file the Election.

The period of limitations on assessment under § 6501(a) has not expired for the Parent Group's taxable year for which they want to make the Election, the taxable year in which the Election should have been filed, or any subsequent taxable year. Parent has represented that it does not seek to alter a return position for which an accuracy-related penalty has been or could be imposed under § 6662.

Section 1.1502-75(a)(1) of the Income Tax Regulations provides, in part, that an affiliated group of corporations which did not file a consolidated return for the immediately preceding taxable year may file a consolidated return in lieu of separate returns for the taxable year, provided that each corporation which has been a member of the group during any part of the taxable year for which the consolidated return is to be filed consents, in accordance with § 1.1502-75(b), to the regulations under § 1502. If a group wishes to exercise its privilege of filing a consolidated return, such consolidated return must be filed not later than the last day prescribed by law (including extensions of time) for the filing of the common parent's return.

Under § 301.9100-1(c), the Commissioner has discretion to grant a reasonable extension of time to make a regulatory election or a statutory election (but no more than six 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.

Sections 301.9100-1 through 301.9100-3 provide the standards the Commissioner will use to determine whether to grant an extension of time to make a regulatory election. Section 301.9100-1(a). Section 301.9100-2 provides automatic extensions of time for making certain elections. Requests for relief under § 301.9100-3 will be granted when the taxpayer provides 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(a).

In this case, the time for filing the Election is fixed by the regulations (i.e., § 1.1502-75(a)(1)). Therefore, the Commissioner has discretionary authority under § 301.9100-3 to grant an extension of time for Parent to file the Election, provided Parent shows it acted reasonably and in good faith, the requirements of §§ 301.9100-1 and 301.9100-3 are satisfied, and granting relief will not prejudice the interests of the government.

Information, affidavits, and representations submitted by Parent, Company Official, and Tax Professional explain the circumstances that resulted in the failure to timely file the Election. The information establishes that Parent reasonably relied on a qualified tax professional who failed to make, or advise Parent to make, the Election. See § 301.9100-3(b)(1)(v).

Based on the facts and information submitted, including the representations made, we conclude that Parent has shown it acted reasonably and in good faith, the requirements of §§ 301.9100-1 and 301.9100-3 are satisfied, and granting relief will not prejudice the interests of the government. Accordingly, provided that the Parent Group qualifies substantively to file a consolidated return for the applicable tax year, an extension of time is granted under § 301.9100-3, until 45 days from the date on this letter, for Parent to file the Election (by filing a consolidated return, with Parent as the common parent, and attaching a Form 1122 for each of Subsidiaries for the taxable year ending on Date 1. Parent Group, having already filed such consolidated return on Date 2, must amend such return to attach a copy of this ruling letter to such return, or if the Parent Group files the return electronically, to attach a statement to the return that provides the date and the control number of this ruling letter.

The above extension of time is conditioned on the Parent Group's tax liability (if any) being not lower, in the aggregate, for all years to which the Election applies, than it would have been if the Election had been timely made (taking into account the time value of money). No opinion is expressed as to the Parent Group's tax liability for the years involved. A determination thereof will be made by the applicable Director's office upon audit of the Federal income tax returns involved.

We express no opinion with respect to whether, in fact, the Parent Group qualifies substantively to file a consolidated return. In addition, we express no opinion as to the tax effects or consequences of filing the return or the Election late under the provisions of any other section of the Code or regulations, or as to the tax treatment of any conditions existing at the time of, or effects resulting from, filing the return or the Election late that are not specifically set forth in the above ruling.

For purposes of granting relief under § 301.9100-3, we relied on certain statements and representations made by Parent, Company Official, and Tax Professional. However, the Director should verify all essential facts. In addition, notwithstanding that an extension is granted under § 301.9100-3 to file the Election, penalties and interest that would otherwise be applicable, if any, continue to apply.

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

In accordance with the Power of Attorney on file with this office, a copy of this letter is being sent to your authorized representative.

Sincerely,

Ken Cohen
Senior Technician Reviewer, Branch 3
Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Corporate)