

**Internal Revenue Service**

Department of the Treasury

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Person to Contact:

Telephone Number:

Refer Reply To:

CC:PSI:3 PLR-142178-02

Date:

March 21, 2003

Legend

Company =

State =

Shareholders =

a =

Dear :

This letter responds to a letter dated June 12, 2002, and subsequent correspondence, requesting a ruling on behalf of Company under § 1362(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The information submitted discloses that Company was formed on a under the laws of State. Company has two shareholders, Shareholders. It is represented that Company has intended to be an S corporation since a. However, Company discovered that its S election had not been timely filed.

Company requests a ruling under § 1362(b)(5) that its § 1362(a) election will be treated as timely made for its taxable year that began on a.

Section 1362(a) provides that a small business corporation may elect to be an S corporation.

Section 1362(b) provides when an S election will be effective. Generally, if an S election is made within the first two and one half months of a corporation's taxable year, then that corporation will be treated as an S corporation for the year in which the election is made. Section 1362(b)(3) provides that if an S election is made after the first two and one half months of a corporation's taxable year, then that corporation will not be treated as an S corporation until the taxable year following the year in which the S election is made.

Section 1362(b)(5) provides that if no § 1362(a) election is made for any taxable year, and the Secretary determines that there was reasonable cause for the failure to timely make such election, then the Secretary may treat such an election as timely made for such taxable year and § 1362(b)(3) shall not apply.

Based on the facts submitted and representations made, we conclude that Company has established reasonable cause for failing to make a timely S election for its taxable year that began on a, and is eligible for relief under § 1362(b)(5). Accordingly, we conclude that Company's § 1362(a) election will be treated as timely made for its taxable year that began on a. However, this ruling is contingent on Company filing Form 2553, Election by a Small Business Corporation, with an effective date of a, with the appropriate Service Center within 60 days from the date of this ruling. A copy of this letter should be attached to the Form 2553.

Except as specifically set forth above, we express or imply no opinion concerning the federal tax consequences of the foregoing facts. Specifically, we express or imply no opinion on whether Company otherwise qualifies as an S corporation.

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

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.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

CHRISTINE ELLISON  
Chief, Branch 3  
Office of the Associate  
Chief Counsel  
(Passthroughs and Special  
Industries)

Enclosure:

Copy for section 6110 purposes

cc: