

chemical, used in photocopying machines and laser printers, which is transferred onto paper to form the printed image. These inks are formulated to be used in printers with standard fusing mechanisms and print speeds of less than 25 ppm.

(v) *Inks (printer toner—≥25 ppm)*. Inks that are a powdered chemical, used in photocopying machines and laser printers, which is transferred onto paper to form the printed image. These inks are formulated to be used in printers with advanced fusing mechanisms and print speeds of 25 ppm or greater.

(vi) *Inks (news)*. Inks used primarily to print newspapers.

(b) *Minimum biobased content*. The minimum biobased content for all inks shall be based on the amount of qualifying biobased carbon in the product as a percent of the weight (mass) of the total organic carbon in the finished product. The applicable minimum biobased contents for the Federal preferred procurement products are:

- (1) *Specialty inks*—66 percent.
- (2) *Inks (sheetfed—color)*—67 percent.
- (3) *Inks (sheetfed—black)*—49 percent.
- (4) *Inks (printer toner—<25 ppm)*—34 percent.
- (5) *Inks (printer toner—≥25 ppm)*—20 percent.
- (6) *Inks (news)*—32 percent.

(c) *Preference compliance date*. No later than April 4, 2013, procuring agencies, in accordance with this part, will give a procurement preference for qualifying biobased inks. By that date, Federal agencies that have the responsibility for drafting or reviewing specifications for products to be procured shall ensure that the relevant specifications require the use of biobased inks.

§ 3201.85 Packing and insulating materials.

(a) *Definition*. Pre-formed and molded materials that are used to hold package contents in place during shipping or for insulating and sound proofing applications.

(b) *Minimum biobased content*. The Federal preferred procurement product must have a minimum biobased content of at least 74 percent, which shall be based on the amount of qualifying biobased carbon in the product as a percent of the weight (mass) of the total organic carbon in the finished product.

(c) *Preference compliance date*. No later than April 4, 2013, procuring agencies, in accordance with this part, will give a procurement preference for qualifying biobased packing and insulating materials. By that date,

Federal agencies that have the responsibility for drafting or reviewing specifications for products to be procured shall ensure that the relevant specifications require the use of biobased packing and insulating materials.

§ 3201.86 Pneumatic equipment lubricants.

(a) *Definition*. Lubricants designed specifically for pneumatic equipment, including air compressors, vacuum pumps, in-line lubricators, rock drills, jackhammers, etc.

(b) *Minimum biobased content*. The Federal preferred procurement product must have a minimum biobased content of at least 67 percent, which shall be based on the amount of qualifying biobased carbon in the product as a percent of the weight (mass) of the total organic carbon in the finished product.

(c) *Preference compliance date*. No later than April 4, 2013, procuring agencies, in accordance with this part, will give a procurement preference for qualifying biobased pneumatic equipment lubricants. By that date, Federal agencies that have the responsibility for drafting or reviewing specifications for products to be procured shall ensure that the relevant specifications require the use of biobased pneumatic equipment lubricants.

(d) *Determining overlap with an EPA-designated recovered content product*. Qualifying products within this item may overlap with the EPA-designated recovered content product: Vehicular Products—re-refined lubricating oils. USDA is requesting that manufacturers of these qualifying biobased products provide information on the USDA Web site of qualifying biobased products about the intended uses of the product, information on whether or not the product contains any recovered material, in addition to biobased ingredients, and performance standards against which the product has been tested. This information will assist Federal agencies in determining whether or not a qualifying biobased product overlaps with EPA-designated re-refined lubricating oil products and which product should be afforded the preference in purchasing.

Note to paragraph (d): Biobased pneumatic equipment lubricants within this designated product category can compete with similar re-refined lubricating oil products with recycled content. Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, section 6002, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency designated re-refined lubricating oil products containing recovered materials as products for which Federal agencies must give preference in their

purchasing programs. The designation can be found in the Comprehensive Procurement Guideline, 40 CFR 247.17.

§ 3201.87 Wood and concrete stains.

(a) *Definition*. Products that are designed to be applied as a finish for concrete and wood surfaces and that contain dyes or pigments to change the color without concealing the grain pattern or surface texture.

(b) *Minimum biobased content*. The Federal preferred procurement product must have a minimum biobased content of at least 39 percent, which shall be based on the amount of qualifying biobased carbon in the product as a percent of the weight (mass) of the total organic carbon in the finished product.

(c) *Preference compliance date*. No later than April 4, 2013, procuring agencies, in accordance with this part, will give a procurement preference for qualifying biobased wood and concrete stains. By that date, Federal agencies that have the responsibility for drafting or reviewing specifications for products to be procured shall ensure that the relevant specifications require the use of biobased wood and concrete stains.

Dated: March 28, 2012.

Pearlie S. Reed,

Assistant Secretary for Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 2012–8068 Filed 4–3–12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

10 CFR Part 430

[Docket Number EERE–2010–BT–TP–0021]

RIN 1904–AC08

Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Residential Clothes Washers; Correction

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is correcting a final rule establishing revised test procedures for residential clothes washers, published in the *Federal Register* on March 7, 2012, and applicable as of April 6, 2012. DOE erroneously omitted regulatory language to remove the obsolete parenthetical note from the water factor calculation section of the currently applicable test procedure.

DATES: *Effective:* April 6, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Witkowski, U.S. Department

of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies Program, EE-2J, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 586-7463. Email: Stephen.Witkowski@ee.doe.gov.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOE published new and amended test procedures for residential clothes washers on March 7, 2012 (hereafter, the “March 2012 final rule”). 77 FR 13888. The current test procedure is codified at appendix J1 in 10 CFR part 430 subpart B (hereafter, “appendix J1”). The March 2012 final rule amended certain provisions in appendix J1 and also established new clothes washer test procedures, codified in a new appendix J2. Residential clothes washer manufacturers must continue to use appendix J1 to determine compliance of their products with energy conservation standards until the compliance date of any amended standards.

In the preamble to the March 2012 final rule, DOE described its intention to remove an obsolete parenthetical note in section 4.2 of appendix J1, which states that the water factor calculations need not be performed to determine compliance with the energy conservation standards for clothes washers. The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA 2007) amended the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291, et seq.) by establishing a water factor standard for top-loading and front-loading standard-size residential clothes washers manufactured on or after January 1, 2011 (42 U.S.C. 6295(g)(9)(A)(ii)); accordingly, this parenthetical note is now obsolete. The calculations in section 4.2 must be performed to determine compliance with energy conservation standards for these clothes washers. In the March 2012 final rule, DOE erroneously omitted regulatory language to remove the obsolete parenthetical note from the water factor calculation section of appendix J1. This final rule corrects section 4.2 of appendix J1 to remove this obsolete note.

In FR Doc. 2012-4819 appearing on page 13888 in the **Federal Register** of Wednesday, March 7, 2012, the following corrections are made:

Appendix J1 [Corrected]

- 1. On page 13937, correct amendatory instruction 7.m. to read as follows:
- m. Revising section 4.2 introductory text;
- 2. On page 13938, third column, before 4.2.3, add the following text:
- 4.2 Water consumption of clothes washers.

* * * * *

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 29, 2012.

Kathleen B. Hogan,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 2012-8073 Filed 4-3-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

13 CFR Part 107

RIN 3245-AF56

Small Business Investment Companies—Conflicts of Interest and Investment of Idle Funds

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Small Business Administration is revising a rule which prohibits a small business investment company (SBIC) from providing financing to an Associate, as defined in the rules, unless it first obtains a conflict of interest exemption from SBA. The revision eliminates the requirement for an exemption in the case of a follow-on investment in a small business concern by an SBIC and an Associate investment fund, where both parties invested previously on the same terms and conditions and where the follow-on investment would also be on the same terms and conditions as well as in the same proportions. In addition, this rule implements two provisions of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended. First, it brings the public notice requirement for conflict of interest transactions into conformity with statutory requirements. Second, it expands the types of investments an SBIC is permitted to make with its “idle funds” (cash that is not immediately needed for fund operations or investments in small business concerns). Finally, the rule makes two technical corrections: Removing an outdated cross-reference; and eliminating a section that exactly duplicates a provision found elsewhere in part 107.

DATES: This rule is effective May 4, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carol Fendler, Office of Investment, (202) 205-7559 or sbic@sba.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 14, 2010, SBA published a proposed rule (75 FR 63110) to: (1) Remove the requirement for an SBIC to obtain a conflict of interest exemption from SBA for certain follow-on financings; (2) revise the public notice requirements for conflict of interest financings to conform with statutory requirements under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended (SBI Act); and (3) expand the types of investments an SBIC is permitted to make with its “idle funds”, in conformity with the SBI Act. The rule also included two non-substantive technical corrections.

SBA received no relevant comments on the proposed rule, which is being finalized without change. SBA’s section-by-section explanation of the proposed regulatory changes, all of which have been implemented in this final rule, is repeated here as a convenience to the reader.

Section 107.730—Financings which constitute conflicts of interest. The SBI Act authorizes SBA to adopt regulations to govern transactions that may constitute a conflict of interest and which may be detrimental to small business concerns, small business investment companies, their investors, or SBA. Accordingly, SBA promulgated 13 CFR 107.730, which generally prohibits financing transactions that involve a conflict of interest, unless the SBIC obtains a prior written exemption from SBA. The most common type of transaction requiring an exemption is “financing an Associate.” Associates of an SBIC, as defined in § 107.50, encompass a broad range of related parties based on business, economic and family ties, both direct and indirect.

In addition to identifying transactions requiring a conflict of interest exemption, § 107.730 sets forth the circumstances under which an SBIC is permitted to co-invest with its Associates. The primary purpose of these provisions is to ensure that the terms of such co-investments are “fair and equitable” to the SBIC, i.e. that the SBIC is not being disadvantaged relative to an Associate. The co-investment rules include a number of “safe harbor” provisions under which the transaction is presumed to be fair and equitable to the SBIC; one of these safe harbors covers financings where the SBIC and its Associate invest at the same time and on the same terms and conditions. SBIC managers frequently seek to rely on this provision because they are involved in