

E. Demonstrating Progress Toward Meeting TAM Performance Targets

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117–58) added a new requirement to the CIG program, codified at 49 U.S.C. 5309(c)(1)(C). FTA must determine an applicant has made progress toward meeting their Transit Asset Management (TAM) performance targets before awarding a construction grant. FTA first implemented this requirement in January 2023 (88 FR 2166) by adopting an interim approach and stating that FTA would propose a long-term approach in a future guidance update.

The interim approach, which is still in effect in the current CIG Policy Guidance, provides that when a project sponsor submits an entry to Engineering request or an FFGA request, the project sponsor must include a statement signed by the CEO (Accountable Executive) describing the progress the project sponsor's transit agency has made toward meeting the TAM targets. This self-certification statement must include two supporting documents: (1) the up-to-date TAM plan and (2) the narrative report submitted to FTA's National Transit Database (NTD) that explains the agency's progress towards achieving the TAM goals for all asset classes in the TAM plan. Each year, transit agencies report their progress toward meeting the performance targets to FTA through the NTD. In addition, transit agencies set targets on State of Good Repair measures and report those targets through the NTD.

On December 17, 2025, the DOT Office of Inspector General (OIG) released an audit report regarding FTA's evaluation of TAM performance targets for purposes of the CIG program.¹ In this report, OIG recommended FTA “[d]evelop and document implementation of a methodology to verify that CIG applicants that are subject to the TAM performance target progress requirement have made progress on established TAM performance targets before awarding CIG grants.” In accordance with this recommendation, FTA is proposing to enhance its existing TAM performance target verification process. Specifically, FTA proposes to enhance its review of the project sponsor's TAM documentation by reviewing the project sponsor's submissions to the NTD (data and accompanying narratives) against the transit agency's TAM Plan and State

of Good Repair targets. FTA would verify the transit agency's progress by comparing the project sponsor's NTD submissions with the transit agency's TAM Plan and State of Good Repair targets for consistency. FTA would also add review of TAM documentation to the Project Management Oversight (PMO) applied to all CIG projects.

To minimize burden on project sponsors at entry to Engineering, FTA also proposes to no longer require the Accountable Executive to submit a signed statement describing the progress the transit agency has made toward meeting its TAM targets. FTA would only require the signed statement at the construction grant request stage. FTA would retain the requirement for the sponsor to provide to FTA the transit agency's current TAM plan and most recent submission to the NTD (data and accompanying narrative) at both the entry to Engineering and construction grant request stages. FTA has also changed the term “Chief Executive Officer” to “Accountable Executive” when describing the performance target requirement for consistency with the terminology used in FTA's TAM regulation (49 CFR part 625). This is a non-substantive change.

Request for Comments

FTA requests comments on this CIG Policy Guidance, which is available in the docket for this notice and on FTA's website. FTA will consider any substantive comments received on the proposed CIG Policy Guidance and will either revise sections in the guidance based on comments received or will finalize the guidance as proposed.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 5309; 49 CFR 1.91.

Matthew Cahill,

Acting Deputy Administrator.

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BILLING CODE 4910–57–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Styrene Isoprene Block Copolymer; x+z=482, y=2,178.51, a=1.70

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of filing and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that styrene isoprene block

copolymer ((C₈H₈)_x-(C₅H₈)_y-(C₈H₈)_z-(C₃₃H₅₆N₄OS₂)_a; x+z=482, y=2,178.51, a=1.70), also known as “SIS Rubber,” be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

DATES: Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before November 30, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov> (indicate public docket number IRS–2026–1032 or styrene isoprene block copolymer; x+z=482, y=2,178.51, a=1.70) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Styrene Isoprene Block Copolymer; x+z=482, y=2,178.51, a=1.70), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jacob W. Peeples at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) *Overview.* A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022–26 (2022–29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023–20 (2023–15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that SIS Rubber be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of SIS Rubber to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS

¹ USDOT Office of Inspector General, *FTA Did Not Verify Transit Asset Management Performance Target Progress Prior to Awarding Capital Investment Grants* (Dec. 17, 2025), <https://www.oig.dot.gov/library-item/47025>.

confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

(b) *Petition Content.*

(1) *Substance name:* Styrene isoprene block copolymer $((C_8H_8)_x-(C_5H_8)_y-(C_8H_8)_z-(C_{33}H_{56}N_4OS_2)_a)$; $x+z=482$, $y=2,178.51$, $a=1.70$.

The substance is also known as SIS Rubber.

(2) *Petitioner:* Zeon Chemicals L.P. is an importer and exporter of SIS Rubber.

(3) *Proposed classification numbers:*

(i) *HTSUS number:* 4002.99.0000.

(ii) *Schedule B number:* 4002.99.0000.

(iii) *CAS number:* 25038–32–8.

(4) *Petition filing dates:*

(i) *Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination:* February 8, 2026.

(ii) *Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20:* April 1, 2023.

(5) *Description from petition:* SIS Rubbers are polyisoprene/polystyrene elastomers with block structures that are primarily used in adhesive formulations. SIS Rubber is a triblock copolymer that consists of polystyrene sequences (or blocks) at each end of an isoprene sequence in the center. The imported SIS Rubber has a very low amount of residual cyclohexane (50 ppm). SIS Rubber is sold in pellet form with a small amount of silica or talc (~0.2%) used as an anti-agglomeration agent. SIS Rubber is made from benzene, ethylene, propylene, butylene, nitric acid, methane, ammonia, chlorine, and sodium hydroxide. Taxable chemicals constitute 25.94 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

(6) *Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance:* The predominant method of producing SIS Rubber is through a block polymerization of isoprene and styrene in cyclohexane in the presence of a catalyst. Styrene monomer is produced by the dehydrogenation of ethylbenzene. Ethylbenzene is produced via a Friedel-Crafts reaction of benzene and ethylene. 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(4,6-bis(octylthio)-1,3,5-triazin-2-ylamino)phenol is produced from 4-amino-2,6-di-tert-butyl phenol and 1,3,5-Triazine, 2-chloro-4,6-bis(octylthio). 4-amino-2,6-di-tert-butyl phenol is produced from 4-nitro-2,6-di-tert-butyl phenol and hydrogen. 4-nitro-2,6-di-tert-butyl phenol is produced from 2,6-di-tert-butyl phenol and nitric acid. 2,6-di-tert-butyl phenol is produced from phenol and butylene. Phenol is produced via the Hock process (*i.e.*, the partial oxidation of cumene via the Hock rearrangement). Cumene is produced via the Friedel-

Crafts alkylation of benzene with propylene. Hydrogen is produced from steam-methane reforming. 1,3,5-Triazine, 2-chloro-4,6-bis(octylthio) is produced from 1,3,5-triazine, 2,4,6-trichloro and 1-octanethiol. 1,3,5-triazine, 2,4,6-trichloro is produced from cyanogen chloride. Cyanogen chloride is produced by the oxidation of sodium cyanide with chlorine. Sodium cyanide is produced by treating hydrogen cyanide with sodium hydroxide. Hydrogen cyanide is produced by Andrussow oxidation (*i.e.*, the reaction of methane and ammonia in the presence of oxygen). 1-Octanethiol is produced by from halogen substituted octane and sodium hydrosulfide. Halogen substituted octane is produced by reacting octane and a halogen (*e.g.*, iodine). Sodium hydrosulfide is produced by the reaction of sodium hydroxide with hydrogen sulfide.

(7) *Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:* $(x+z+a) C_6H_6$ (benzene) + $(x+z) C_2H_4$ (ethylene) + $y C_5H_8$ (isoprene) + $a C_3H_6$ (propylene) + $2a C_4H_8$ (butylene) + $a HNO_3$ (nitric acid) + $15/4a CH_4$ (methane) + $3a NH_3$ (ammonia) + $3a Cl_2$ (chlorine) + $5a NaOH$ (sodium hydroxide) + $2a C_8H_{18}$ (octane) + $11/2a O_2$ (oxygen) + $2a I_2$ (iodine) + $2a H_2S$ (hydrogen sulfide) $\rightarrow (C_8H_8)_x-(C_5H_8)_y-(C_8H_8)_z-(C_{33}H_{56}N_4OS_2)_a$ (SIS Rubber) + $(x+z) H_2$ (hydrogen) + $3a HCl$ (hydrochloric acid) + $31/2a H_2O$ (water) + $3/4a CO_2$ (carbon dioxide) + $a C_3H_6O$ (acetone) + $3a NaCl$ (sodium chloride) + $2a HI$ (hydrogen iodide) + $2a NaI$ (sodium iodide).

(8) *Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:*

(i) *Tax rate:* \$2.56 per ton.

(ii) *Conversion factors:* 0.19 for benzene, 0.07 for ethylene, 0.0004 for propylene, 0.001 for butylene, 0.0005 for nitric acid, 0.0005 for methane, 0.0004 for ammonia, 0.002 for chlorine, and 0.002 for sodium hydroxide.

(9) *Public docket number:* IRS–2026–1032.

Michael H. Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2026–20061 Filed 9–30–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4831–GV–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[Docket No. VA–2026–VACO–0001]

Corporate Senior Executive Management Office Notice of Performance Review Board Members

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Agencies are required to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** of the appointment of Performance Review Board (PRB) members. This notice announces the appointment of individuals to serve on the PRB of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

DATES: This appointment is effective October 1, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melanie J. McGuire, Executive Director, Corporate Senior Executive Management Office, Office of Human Resources and Administration, Melanie.McGuire@va.gov or (202) 394–7490.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The membership of the Department of Veterans Affairs Performance Review Board is as follows:

Lawrence, Paul R.—Chair
Engelbaum, Mark R.—Vice Chair
Amick, Kevin P.
Arnold, Kenneth A.
Beck, Mari C.
Bocchicchio, Alfred J.
Bowman, Janna
Boyd, Teresa D.
Carter, Don C.
Clark, Ada Y.
Connell, Lawrence
Dannenberg, Walt C.
De Leon, Joshua
Decelles Slusher, Michelle E.
Flint, Sandra D.
Gruntmeir, Doris
Hamilton, Ryan
Hawthorne, Cory
Hayes-Byrd, Jacquelyn
Heiman, Ryan M.
Jones, Rhonda J.
Kobelja, Mark A.
Koeniger, Mark A.
Leahy, James
Lee, Aaron M.
Marsh, Willie C.
McCormick, Cortney Lynn
Morton, Barbara C.
O'Toole, Thomas P.
Parker, Christopher D.
Pozzebon, Lisa
Prietula, Laura V.
Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.
Puetz, Tim
Repasky, Stephanie A.
Salyers, Jessica L.
Schmitt, Joseph G.