

Control, shall be deemed to authorize or validate any transaction effected prior to the issuance of the license, unless specifically provided in such license or authorization.

(b) No regulation, ruling, instruction, or license authorizes any transaction prohibited under this part unless the regulation, ruling, instruction, or license is issued by the Office of Foreign Assets Control and specifically refers to this part. No regulation, ruling, instruction, or license referring to this part shall be deemed to authorize any transaction prohibited by any provision of this chapter unless the regulation, ruling, instruction or license specifically refers to such provision.

(c) Any regulation, ruling, instruction, or license authorizing any transaction otherwise prohibited under this part has the effect of removing a prohibition or prohibitions contained in this part from the transaction, but only to the extent specifically stated by its terms. Unless the regulation, ruling, instruction, or license otherwise specifies, such an authorization does not create any right, duty, obligation, claim, or interest in, or with respect to, any property which would not otherwise exist under ordinary principles of law.

**§ 537.503 Exclusion from licenses and authorizations.**

The Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control reserves the right to exclude any person, property, or transaction from the operation of any license, or from the privileges therein conferred, or to restrict the applicability thereof with respect to particular persons, property, transactions, or classes thereof. Such action shall be binding upon all persons receiving actual or constructive notice of such exclusion or restriction.

**§ 537.504 Divestiture of U.S. person's equity investment in Burma.**

Notwithstanding the prohibition in § 537.202 against the facilitation by a U.S. person of a foreign person's investment, all transactions related to the divestiture or transfer to a foreign person of a U.S. person's share of ownership including an equity interest in the economic development of resources lo-

cated in Burma are authorized. U.S. persons participating in such transactions valued at more than \$10,000 are required, within 10 business days after the agreement is signed, to file a report for statistical purposes with the Office of Foreign Assets Control, U.S. Treasury Department, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.—Annex, Washington, DC 20220.

NOTE TO § 537.504: This authorization includes arrangements by U.S. persons with pre-effective date investments in Burma to "farm in" or sell a stake in the investment to a foreign person. For purposes of this section, the term *farm-in arrangement* is defined to mean the sale of an equity interest in an investment in the economic development of resources located in Burma.

**Subpart F—Reports**

**§ 537.601 Recordkeeping and reporting requirements.**

For provisions relating to records and reports, see subpart B of part 501 of this chapter.

**Subpart G—Penalties**

**§ 537.701 Penalties.**

(a) Attention is directed to section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) (the "Act"), which is applicable to violations of the provisions of any license, ruling, regulation, order, direction or instruction issued by or pursuant to the direction or authorization of the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to this part or otherwise under the Act. Section 206 of the Act, as adjusted by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (Pub.L. 101-410, as amended, 28 U.S.C. 2461 note), provides that:

(1) A civil penalty of not to exceed \$11,000 per violation may be imposed on any person who violates any license, order, or regulation issued under the Act;

(2) Whoever willfully violates any license, order, or regulation issued under the Act shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$50,000, or, if a natural person, may be imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both; and any officer, director, or agent of any corporation who knowingly participates in

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such violation may be punished by a like fine, imprisonment or both.

(b) The criminal penalties provided in the Act are subject to increase pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3571.

(c) Attention is also directed to 18 U.S.C. 1001, which provides that whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States, knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

(d) Violations of this part may also be subject to relevant provisions of other applicable laws.

### § 537.702 Prepenalty notice.

(a) *When required.* If the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control has reasonable cause to believe that there has occurred a violation of any provision of this part or a violation of the provisions of any license, ruling, regulation, order, direction or instruction issued by or pursuant to the direction or authorization of the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to this part or otherwise under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, and the Director determines that further proceedings are warranted, he shall issue to the person concerned a notice of his intent to impose a monetary penalty. The prepenalty notice shall be issued whether or not another agency has taken any action with respect to this matter.

(b) *Contents—(1) Facts of violation.* The prepenalty notice shall describe the violation, specify the laws and regulations allegedly violated, and state the amount of the proposed monetary penalty.

(2) *Right to respond.* The prepenalty notice also shall inform the respondent of respondent's right to make a written presentation within 30 days of mailing of the notice as to why a monetary penalty should not be imposed, or, if

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imposed, why it should be in a lesser amount than proposed.

### § 537.703 Response to prepenalty notice; informal settlement.

(a) *Deadline for response.* The respondent shall have 30 days from the date of mailing of the prepenalty notice to make a written response to the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control.

(b) *Form and contents of response.* The written response need not be in any particular form, but shall contain information sufficient to indicate that it is in response to the prepenalty notice. It should contain responses to the allegations in the prepenalty notice and set forth the reasons why the respondent believes the penalty should not be imposed or, if imposed, why it should be in a lesser amount than proposed.

(c) *Informal settlement.* In addition or as an alternative to a written response to a prepenalty notice pursuant to this section, the respondent or respondent's representative may contact the Office of Foreign Assets Control as advised in the prepenalty notice to propose the settlement of allegations contained in the prepenalty notice and related matters. In the event of settlement at the prepenalty stage, the claim proposed in the prepenalty notice will be withdrawn, the respondent is not required to take a written position on allegations contained in the prepenalty notice, and the Office of Foreign Assets Control will make no final determination as to whether a violation occurred. The amount accepted in settlement of allegations in a prepenalty notice may vary from the civil penalty that might finally be imposed in the event of a formal determination of violation. In the event no settlement is reached, the 30-day period specified in paragraph (a) of this section for written response to the prepenalty notice remains in effect unless additional time is granted by the Office of Foreign Assets Control.

### § 537.704 Penalty imposition or withdrawal.

(a) *No violation.* If, after considering any response to the prepenalty notice and any relevant facts, the Director of