

credit, and reference price apply to qualified fuels sold during calendar year 1997.

INFLATION FACTOR: The inflation adjustment factor for calendar year 1997 is 2.0331.

CREDIT: The nonconventional source fuel credit for calendar year 1997 is \$6.10 per barrel-of-oil equivalent of qualified fuels.

PRICE: The reference price for calendar year 1997 is \$17.24. Because this reference price does not exceed \$23.50 multiplied by the inflation adjustment factor, the phaseout of credit provided for in section 29(b)(1) does not occur for any qualified fuel sold in calendar year 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For the inflation factor and credit—Thomas Thompson, CP:R:R:AR:E, Internal Revenue Service, 1111 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20224, Telephone Number (202) 874-0585 (not a toll-free number).

For the reference price—David McMunn, CC:DOM:P&SI:6, Internal Revenue Service, 1111 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20224, Telephone Number (202) 622-3110 (not a toll-free number).

Judith C. Dunn,

Associate Chief Counsel (Domestic).

[FR Doc. 98-8555 Filed 3-31-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Renewable Electricity Production Credit, Publication of Inflation Adjustment Factor and Reference Prices for Calendar Year 1998

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Publication of inflation adjustment factor and reference prices for calendar year 1998 as required by section 45(d)(2)(A) (26 U.S.C. 45(d)(2)(A)).

SUMMARY: The 1998 inflation adjustment factor and reference prices are used in determining the availability of the renewable electricity production credit under section 45(a).

DATES: The 1998 inflation adjustment factor and reference prices apply to calendar year 1998 sales of kilowatt hours of electricity produced in the United States or a possession thereof from qualified energy resources.

INFLATION ADJUSTMENT FACTOR: The inflation adjustment factor for calendar year 1998 is 1.1240.

REFERENCE PRICES: The reference prices for calendar year 1998 are 4.95¢ per kilowatt hour for facilities producing electricity from wind and 0¢ per kilowatt hour for facilities producing electricity from closed-loop biomass. The reference price for electricity produced from closed-loop biomass, as defined in section 45(c)(2), is based on a determination under section 45(d)(2)(C) that in calendar year 1997 there were no sales of electricity generated from closed-loop biomass energy resources under contracts entered into after December 31, 1989.

Because the 1998 reference prices for electricity produced from wind and closed-loop biomass energy resources do not exceed 8¢ multiplied by the inflation adjustment factor, the phaseout of the credit provided in section 45(b)(1) does not apply to electricity sold during calendar year 1998.

CREDIT AMOUNT: As required by section 45(b)(2), the 1.5¢ amount in section 45(a)(1) is adjusted by multiplying such amount by the inflation adjustment factor for the calendar year in which the sale occurs. If any amount as increased under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of 0.1¢, such amount is rounded to the nearest multiple of 0.1¢. Under the calculation required by section 45(b)(2), the renewable electricity production credit for calendar year 1998 under section 45(a) is 1.7¢ per kilowatt hour on the sale of electricity produced from closed-loop biomass and wind energy resources.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Selig, IRS, CC:DOM:P&SI:5, 1111 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20224, (202) 622-3040 (not a toll-free call).

Judith C. Dunn,

Associate Chief Counsel (Domestic).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Open Meeting of the Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In 1991 the IRS established the Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee (IRPAC) in response to a recommendation made by the United States Congress. The primary purpose of IRPAC is to provide an organized public forum for discussion of

relevant information reporting issues between the officials of the IRS and representatives of the payer community. IRPAC offers constructive observations about current or proposed policies, programs, and procedures and, when necessary, suggests ways to improve the operation of the Information Reporting Program (IRP).

There will be a meeting of IRPAC on Wednesday and Thursday, April 29-30, 1998. The meeting will be held in Room 3313 of the Internal Revenue Service Main Building, which is located at 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. A summarized version of the agenda along with a list of topics that are planned to be discussed are listed below.

Summarized Agenda for Meeting on April 29-30, 1998

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

- 9:00 Meeting Opens
- 11:30 Break for Lunch
- 1:00 Meeting Resumes
- 4:30 Meeting Adjourns for the Day

Thursday, April 30, 1998

- 9:00 Meeting Reconvenes
- 12:00 Meeting Adjourns

The topics that are planned to be covered are as follows:

- (1) Reporting OID Income on Treasury Obligations on Form 1099-OID
- (2) Separate Reporting on Forms 1099-INT and 1099-OID of Investment Expenses Allocated to Holders of Stripped Mortgage Obligations
- (3) Reporting of Payments Following an Employee's Death
- (4) Student Loan Interest Reporting
- (5) Guidance on Claiming Exemptions on Form W-4
- (6) Form 1099-MISC Filing Educational Initiative
- (7) Roth Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and Education IRA
- (8) Revision of Form SS-8
- (9) Reporting Settlement Payments Made to Attorneys
- (10) Employer Authority to See and Copy the Social Security Card
- (11) Reporting Notional Principal Contract Income
- (12) Section 1441 Transition Rules for Existing Documentation
- (13) Follow-up Discussion on Form W-2G Reporting for Slot Machine Payouts
- (14) Follow-up Discussion on Disbursements to Contractors & Subcontractors and Escrow Fund Disbursements
- (15) Follow-up Discussion on IRP Closing Agreements
- (16) Follow-up Discussion on Reporting related to the Uniformed Services

- Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA)
- (17) Follow-up on Form W-2c Requirement for Address Corrections
 - (18) Follow-up on Alternative Signatures
 - (19) Update on IRS Certifications for Real Estate Transactions
 - (20) Update on New Forms W-8
 - (21) Update on Qualified Intermediaries
 - (22) Martinsburg Computing Center Update—IRP Seminars & Electronic Filing
 - (23) Social Security Administration Update on Unmatchable Forms W-2

Note: Last minute changes to these topics are possible and could prevent advance notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: IRPAC reports to the National Director, Office of Specialty Taxes, who is the executive responsible for information reporting payer compliance. IRPAC is instrumental in providing advice to enhance the IRP Program. Increasing participation by external stakeholders in the planning and improvement of the tax system will help achieve the goals of increasing voluntary compliance, reducing burden, and improving customer service. IRPAC is currently comprised of 18 representatives from various segments of the information reporting payer community. IRPAC members are not paid for their time or services, but consistent with Federal regulations, they are reimbursed for their travel and lodging expenses to attend two public meetings each year.

DATES: The meeting will be open to the public, and will be in a room that accommodates approximately 80 people, including members of IRPAC and IRS officials. Seats are available to members of the public on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to get your name on the building access list, *notification of intent to attend this meeting must be made with Ms. Gloria Wilson no later than Friday, April 24, 1998. Ms. Wilson can be reached at 202-622-4393.* Notification of intent to

attend should include your name, organization and phone number. If you leave this information for Ms. Wilson in a voice-mail message, please spell out all names.

A draft of the agenda will be available via facsimile transmission the week prior to the meeting. Please call Ms. Thomasine Matthews at 202-622-4214 on or after Monday, April 20, 1998, to have a copy of the agenda faxed to you. Please note that a draft agenda will not be available until Monday, April 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: If you would like to have IRPAC consider a written statement at a future IRPAC meeting (not the April 1998 meeting), please write to Kate LaBuda at IRS, Office of Payer Compliance, CP:EX:ST:PC, Room 2013, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To get on the access list to attend this meeting, call Ms. Gloria Wilson at 202-622-4393. To have a copy of the agenda faxed to you on or after April 20, 1998, call Ms. Thomasine Matthews at 202-622-4214. For general information about IRPAC call Ms. Kate LaBuda at 202-622-3404.

Dated: March 26, 1998.

Kate LaBuda,

Acting Director, Office of Payer Compliance, Office of Examination.

[FR Doc. 98-8556 Filed 3-31-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Gulf War Expert Scientific Advisory Committee, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in accordance with Pub. L. 92-463, gives notice that a meeting of the VA Gulf War Expert Scientific Advisory Committee will be held on:

- Monday, March 30, 1998, at 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 31, 1998, at 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

The location of the meeting will be 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., Room 230.

The Committee's objectives are to advise the Under Secretary for Health about medical findings affecting Gulf War era veterans.

At this meeting the Committee will review all aspects of patient care and medical diagnoses and will provide professional consultation as needed. The Committee may advise on other areas involving research and development, veterans' benefits and/or training aspects for patients and staff.

The agenda for March 30 will begin with an update of Gulf War Programs from various Veterans Service Organizations as well as presentations on: Patient Satisfaction Survey; Low Level Agent Exposure and Biological Effects; Characteristics of DoD Pre-Deployment Physicals; and Disability Ratings Among Gulf War Veterans. The first day's agenda will also cover follow-ups on VA Mortality Study and VA Referral Center Patients.

On March 31 the Committee will hear updates on the DoD/VA Programs in Leishmania; the Depleted Uranium Training Program; and Activities in Risk Communications. All portions of the meeting will be open to the public.

Additional information concerning these meetings may be obtained from the Executive Secretary, Office of Public Health & Environmental Hazards, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20420.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, this notice of meeting is being published late. Notice of availability of the Executive Summary of this meeting will be published in the **Federal Registry** in the near future.

Dated: March 26, 1998.

By Direction of the Acting Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

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BILLING CODE 8320-01-M