

marking requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard (49 CFR 541).

GM's proposed device lacks an audible or visible alarm. Therefore, this device cannot perform one of the functions listed in 49 CFR part 543.6(a)(3), that is, to call attention to unauthorized attempts to enter or move the vehicle. Based on comparison of the reduction in the theft rates of Chevrolet Corvettes using a passive theft deterrent system along with an audible/visible alarm system to the reduction in theft rates for the Chevrolet Camaro and the Pontiac Firebird models equipped with a passive theft deterrent system without an alarm, GM finds that the lack of an alarm or attention attracting device does not compromise the theft deterrent performance of a system such as PASS-Key III+ system. Theft data have indicated a decline in theft rates for vehicle lines equipped with comparable devices that have received full exemptions from the parts-marking requirements. In these instances, the agency has concluded that the lack of a audible or visible alarm has not prevented these antitheft devices from being effective protection against theft.

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 33106 and 49 CFR 543.7(b), the agency grants a petition for exemption from the parts-marking requirements of part 541, either in whole or in part, if it determines that, based upon substantial evidence, the standard equipment antitheft device is likely to be as effective in reducing and deterring motor vehicle theft as compliance with the parts-marking requirements of part 541. The agency finds that GM has provided adequate reasons for its belief that the antitheft device for the Chevrolet Sonic vehicle line is likely to be as effective in reducing and deterring motor vehicle theft as compliance with the parts-marking requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard (49 CFR part 541). This conclusion is based on the information GM provided about its device.

The agency concludes that the device will provide four of the five types of performance listed in § 543.6(a)(3): promoting activation; preventing defeat or circumvention of the device by unauthorized persons; preventing operation of the vehicle by unauthorized entrants; and ensuring the reliability and durability of the device.

For the foregoing reasons, the agency hereby grants in full GM's petition for exemption for the Chevrolet Sonic vehicle line from the parts-marking requirements of 49 CFR part 541, beginning with the 2012 model year vehicles. The agency notes that 49 CFR part 541, Appendix A-1, identifies

those lines that are exempted from the Theft Prevention Standard for a given model year. 49 CFR part 543.7(f) contains publication requirements incident to the disposition of all part 543 petitions. Advanced listing, including the release of future product nameplates, the beginning model year for which the petition is granted and a general description of the antitheft device is necessary in order to notify law enforcement agencies of new vehicle lines exempted from the parts marking requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard.

If GM decides not to use the exemption for this line, it should formally notify the agency. If such a decision is made, the line must be fully marked according to the requirements under 49 CFR parts 541.5 and 541.6 (marking of major component parts and replacement parts).

NHTSA notes that if GM wishes in the future to modify the device on which this exemption is based, the company may have to submit a petition to modify the exemption. Part 543.7(d) states that a part 543 exemption applies only to vehicles that belong to a line exempted under this part and equipped with the antitheft device on which the line's exemption is based. Further, part 543.9(c)(2) provides for the submission of petitions "to modify an exemption to permit the use of an antitheft device similar to but differing from the one specified in that exemption."

The agency wishes to minimize the administrative burden that part 543.9(c)(2) could place on exempted vehicle manufacturers and itself. The agency did not intend in drafting part 543 to require the submission of a modification petition for every change to the components or design of an antitheft device. The significance of many such changes could be *de minimis*. Therefore, NHTSA suggests that if the manufacturer contemplates making any changes, the effects of which might be characterized as *de minimis*, it should consult the agency before preparing and submitting a petition to modify.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 33106; delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.50.

Issued on: March 1, 2011.

**Joseph S. Carra,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Rulemaking.*

[FR Doc. 2011-5112 Filed 3-7-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-59-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Open Meeting for the Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee (ETAAC)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In 1998 the Internal Revenue Service established the Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee (ETAAC). The primary purpose of ETAAC is for industry partners to provide an organized public forum for discussion of electronic tax administration issues in support of the overriding goal that paperless filing should be the preferred and most convenient method of filing tax and information returns. ETAAC offers constructive observations about current or proposed policies, programs, and procedures, and suggests improvements. Listed is a summary of the agenda along with the planned discussion topics.

#### Summarized Agenda

8:30 a.m.—Meet and Greet

9 a.m.—Meeting Opens

11 a.m.—Meeting Adjourns

The topics for discussion include:

- (1) ETAAC Security Subcommittee
- (2) Filing Season Status Update
- (3) Overview of ETA Operations

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

**DATES:** There will be a meeting of the ETAAC on Thursday, March 24, 2011. You must register in advance to be put on a guest list to attend the meeting. This meeting will be open to the public, and will be in a room that accommodates approximately 40 people, including members of ETAAC and IRS officials. Seats are available to members of the public on a first-come, first-served basis. Escorts will be provided so attendees are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes before the meeting begins.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Internal Revenue Service, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room 2116, Washington, DC 20024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You must provide your name in advance for the guest list and be able to show your State-issued picture identification on the day of the meeting. Otherwise, you will not be able to attend the meeting as this is a secured building. To receive a copy of the agenda or general information about the ETAAC, please

contact Cassandra Daniels on 202-283-2178 or at [etaac@irs.gov](mailto:etaac@irs.gov) by Tuesday, March 22, 2011. Notification of intent should include your name, organization and telephone number. Please spell out all names if you leave a voice message.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** ETAAC reports to the Director, Electronic Tax Administration, who is also the executive responsible for the electronic tax administration program. Increasing participation by external stakeholders in the development and implementation of the strategy for electronic tax administration will help IRS achieve the goal that paperless filing should be the preferred and most convenient method of filing tax and information returns. ETAAC 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 the public meetings, working sessions, and an orientation each year.

Dated: February 24, 2011.

**Cecille M. Jones,**

*Acting Director, Electronic Tax Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2011-5256 Filed 3-7-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

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## U.S.-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION

### Notice of Open Public Hearing

**AGENCY:** U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of open public hearing—March 10, 2011 Washington, DC.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following hearing of the U.S.-China

Economic and Security Review Commission.

*Name:* William A. Reinsch, Chairman of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

The Commission is mandated by Congress to investigate, assess, and report to Congress annually on “the national security implications of the economic relationship between the United States and the People’s Republic of China.”

Pursuant to this mandate, the Commission will hold a public hearing in Washington, DC on March 10, 2011, to address “China’s Narratives Regarding National Security Policy.”

*Background:* This is the third public hearing the Commission will hold during its 2011 report cycle to collect input from leading academic, industry, and government experts on national security implications of the U.S. bilateral trade and economic relationship with China. The March 10 hearing will examine the various narratives emerging from China in regards to Chinese foreign and national security policy. By examining these narratives in greater detail, the hearing will seek to offer greater insight into policy debates inside the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) regarding China’s relations with other countries, and China’s future role in the world. The March 10 hearing will be co-chaired by Commissioners Jeffrey Fiedler and Dennis Shea.

Any interested party may file a written statement by March 10, 2011, by mailing to the contact below. A portion of each panel will include a question and answer period between the Commissioners and the witnesses.

Transcripts of past Commission public hearings may be obtained from the USCC Web site <http://www.uscc.gov>.

*Date and Time:* Thursday, March 10, 2011, 9:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. A detailed agenda for the hearing and roundtable will be posted to the Commission’s Web site at <http://www.uscc.gov> as soon as available.

**ADDRESSES:** The hearing will be held on Capitol Hill in Room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, located at Constitution Avenue and 1st Street, NE in Washington, DC 20002. Public seating is limited to about 50 people on a first come, first served basis. *Advance reservations are not required.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Any member of the public seeking further information concerning the hearing should contact Michael Danis, Executive Director for the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, 444 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite 602, Washington DC 20001; phone: 202-624-1407, or via e-mail at [contact@uscc.gov](mailto:contact@uscc.gov).

**Authority:** Congress created the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission in 2000 in the National Defense Authorization Act (Pub. L. 106-398), as amended by Division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (Pub. L. 108-7), as amended by Pub. L. 109-108 (November 22, 2005).

Dated: March 3, 2011.

**Michael Danis,**

*Executive Director, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.*

[FR Doc. 2011-5264 Filed 3-7-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 1137-00-P**