

individual or corporate surety when that surety, without just cause, is significantly delinquent either in the number of outstanding bills or dollar amounts thereof.

(3) *Notice of surety.* The appropriate Customs officer may take the above actions only after the surety has been provided reasonable notice with an opportunity to pay delinquent amounts, provide justification for the failure to pay, or demonstrate the existence of a significant legal issue justifying further delay in payment.

(4) *Review and final decision.* After a review of any submission made by the surety under paragraph (c)(3) of this section, if the appropriate Customs officer is still of the opinion bonds secured by the surety should not be accepted, written notice of the decision shall be provided to the surety in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least five days before the date that Customs will no longer accept the bonds of the surety. When notice is sent to the surety of the decision not to accept the surety's bonds the appropriate Customs officer shall notify the Director, International Trade Compliance Division, Customs Headquarters. Notice shall be given to the importing public by posting a copy of the decision in the customhouse. The decision shall also be published in the Customs Bulletin.

(5) *Duration of decision.* Any decision not to accept a given surety's bond shall remain in effect for a minimum of five days or until all outstanding delinquencies are resolved, whichever is later.

(6) *Actions consistent with requirements.* Any action not to accept the bonds of a surety under paragraphs (c) (1) and (2) of this section shall be consistent with the requirements of this section.

[T.D. 84-213, 49 FR 41171, Oct. 19, 1984, as amended by T.D. 91-77, 56 FR 46115, Sept. 10, 1991; T.D. 95-77, 60 FR 50020, Sept. 27, 1995; T.D. 99-27, 64 FR 13675, Mar. 22, 1999; T.D. 99-64, 64 FR 43266, Aug. 10, 1999]

§ 113.39 Procedure to remove a surety from Treasury Department Circular 570.

If a port director or Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer is unsatisfied

with a surety company because the company has neglected or refused to pay a valid demand made on the surety company's bond or otherwise has failed to honor an obligation on that bond, the port director may take the following steps to recommend that the surety company be removed from Treasury Department Circular 570.

(a) *Report to Headquarters.* A port director or Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer shall send the following evidence to Headquarters, Attn: Director, International Trade Compliance Division.

(1) A copy of the bond in issue;

(2) A copy of the entry or other evidence which shows that there was a default on the bond;

(3) A copy of all notices, demands or correspondence sent to the surety company requesting the honoring of the bond obligation;

(4) A copy of all correspondence from the surety company; and

(5) A written report of the facts known to the port director or Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer showing the unsatisfactory performance by the surety company of the bond obligation(s).

(b) *Review by Headquarters.* The Director, International Trade Compliance Division, shall review submitted evidence and determine whether further action against the surety company is warranted. If it is determined that further action is warranted, a report recommending appropriate action will be submitted to the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, as required by §223.18(a), Bureau of Government Financial Operations Regulations (31 CFR 223.18(a)). The port director and Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer will be informed in writing of Headquarters action regarding their request for removal of the surety.

[T.D. 84-213, 49 FR 41171, Oct. 19, 1984, as amended by T.D. 91-77, 56 FR 46115, Sept. 10, 1991; T.D. 95-77, 60 FR 50020, Sept. 27, 1995; T.D. 99-27, 64 FR 13675, Mar. 22, 1999]

§ 113.40 Acceptance of cash deposits or obligations of the United States in lieu of sureties on bonds.

(a) *General provision.* In lieu of sureties on any bond required or authorized by any law, regulation, or instruction