



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

August 5, 2015

Tom Rosenfeld  
Pennsylvania DCED Regional Center  
1500 Market Street, 2600 Centre Square West  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Application: Form I-924, Application for Regional Center Under the Immigrant Investor Pilot Program

Regional Center: Pennsylvania DCED Regional Center  
ID1031910137

Re: Request to Amend Regional Center Designation  
Project: Pennsylvania Regional Center, LP VIII  
RCW1416851781

This notice is in reference to the Form I-924, Application for Regional Center Under the Immigrant Investor Pilot Program, that was filed by the applicant with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on June 17, 2014. The applicant filed the Form I-924 to request approval of an amendment to a previously approved regional center designation under the Immigrant Investor Program. The Immigrant Investor Program was established under section 610 of the Department of Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1993 (Pub. L. 102-395, Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1874).

In addition to the Form I-924, the applicant submitted a completed exemplar Form I-526, Immigrant Petition by Alien Entrepreneur, seeking USCIS review and approval of an actual project supported by a comprehensive business plan as contemplated in *Matter of Ho*, 22 I. & N. Dec. 206 (Assoc. Comm'r 1998).

**I. Executive Summary of Adjudication**

Effective the date of this notice, USCIS approves the Pennsylvania Regional Center, LP VIII project based on the evidence submitted with the above referenced Form I-924 and exemplar Form I-526. The applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the Pennsylvania Regional Center, LP VIII will be a new commercial enterprise (NCE) and that the project is likely to result in the creation of at least  obs. USCIS will give

(b)(4)

deference to the applicant's estimates of actual job creation and economic analysis, the business plan, and the organizational documents, offering memorandum, and investment agreements in subsequent related filings of any Form I-526 filed by an individual investor associated with the Pennsylvania Regional Center, LP VIII project. Deference, however, will not apply if the underlying facts have materially changed, there is evidence of fraud or misrepresentation in the record of proceeding, or the previously favorable decision is determined to be legally deficient (involved an objective mistake of fact or law).

**II. Procedural History**

On April 13, 2007, USCIS approved the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Regional Center ("PDCED") for participation in the Immigrant Investor Program as a designated regional center. Based on the initial designation and subsequently approved amendments, the PDCED obtained approval for the following geographic areas and industry categories:

State	Counties	Approval Date
Pennsylvania	Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Lawrence, Butler, Clarion, Beaver, Armstrong, Allegheny, Indiana, Westmoreland, Washington, Greene, Fayette, Somerset, Cambria, Blair, Bedford, Warren, Forest, Jefferson Clearfield	04/13/2007
Pennsylvania	Fulton, Franklin, Cumberland, Adams, York, Lancaster, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks, Berks, Lehigh, Northampton, Schuylkill, Carbon, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Lackawanna, Wayne	09/08/2008

NAICS	Industry Name	Approval Date
482000	Agriculture and Food Production	04/13/2007
524114	Health Services	04/13/2007
611310	Higher Education	04/13/2007
321991	Leasehold Improvements of Commercial Office Space	04/13/2007
Not Applicable	Manufacturing and Trade	04/13/2007
921110	Technology	04/13/2007
561591	Tourism and Hospitality	04/13/2007
926120	Transportation	04/13/2007
331421	Cooper Manufacturing	07/15/2013
236210	Industrial Building Construction	07/15/2013

**III. Amendment Request<sup>1</sup>**

USCIS approves the applicant’s amendment request to include the following industry categories:

NAICS	Industry Name
236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction
721110	Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
531312	Nonresidential Property Managers

**IV. Pennsylvania Regional Center LP, VIII Project**

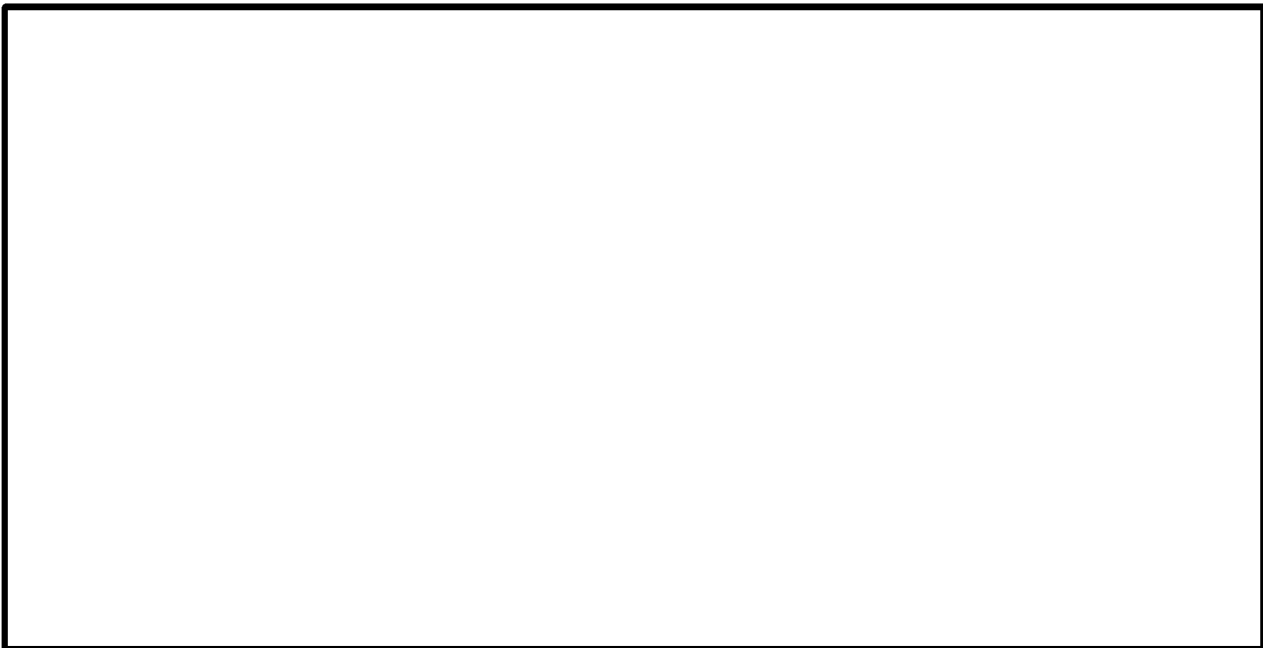
Effective the date of this notice, USCIS approves the applicant’s amendment request to include the following actual capital investment project supported by an exemplar Form I-526:

Project	Type of Project	Organization Documents	Date of Document
Pennsylvania Regional Center LP, VIII	Hotel & Office Building	Comprehensive Business Plan	06/07/2014
		Economic Analysis	03/13/2014
		Confidential Information Memorandum	03/13/2014
Geographic Location: Lehigh, PA	Investment: EB-5, Equity, Loans, Grants	Confidential Information Memorandum Supplement	03/13/2014
		Subscription Agreement	08/14/2014
Exemplar Form I-526 Petition Project		Escrow Agreement	12/10/2013 (01/29/201 signed)
		Limited Partnership Agreement	03/14/2014
		Servicing Agreement	03/12/2014
		Agreement of Sale	10/17/2013
		Loan & Security Agreement	03/14/2014
		Hotel Deed	05/03/2013
		Lease Agreements	04/03/2014
		Consulting Services Agreement	08/21/2013
		Hotel Franchise Agreement	10/25/2013
		Construction Service Agreement	04/01/2014
		Second Facility Modification Agreement	01/07/2014
		Shareholder Agreement	08/30/2012

<sup>1</sup> USCIS issued a Policy Memorandum (PM-602-0083) on the subject of “EB-5 Adjudication Policy,” dated May 30, 2013, stating that formal amendments to the regional center designation are no longer required when a regional center changes its industries of focus or geographic boundaries. A regional center may still elect to pursue a formal amendment by filing Form I-924 if it seeks certainty in advance that changes in the industries or the geographic area will be permissible prior to filing Form I-526 petitions.

**Note:** If material changes to this project and its supporting documents are found in a subsequent Form I-526 petition or Form I-829, Petition by Entrepreneur to Remove Conditions, USCIS will review the supporting documents once more to ensure continued compliance with EB-5 program requirements.

The requested amendment identifies the NCE of the proposed project as Pennsylvania Regional Center LP, VIII, which was formed in the State of Pennsylvania on March 26, 2010. Pennsylvania Regional Center LP, VIII project is located within a targeted employment area (TEA) in the City of Allentown, Pennsylvania. Approximately [redacted] EB-5 investors will subscribe to the NCE as limited partners in exchange for capital contributions of [redacted] each and an aggregate of [redacted] (b)(4)



**IV. Job Creation**

The job creation methodology presented in the economic impact analysis and underlying business plan is found to be reasonable based on the following inputs, when applying the IMPLAN economic model:

NAICS <sup>2</sup>	Industry Name	Input (\$Millions)	Direct Employment Multiplier	Total Indirect/ Induced Multiplier
236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction			
	Hard Costs			
	Soft Costs			
	FF&E			
721110	Hotels, Resort without Casinos			
	Hotel Operations			
	Restaurants			
<b>Total Hotel Jobs:</b>				

(b)(4)

NAICS <sup>4</sup>	Industry Name	Input (\$Millions)	Direct Employment Multiplier	Total Indirect/ Induced Multiplier
236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction			
721110	Hotels, Resort without Casinos			
	Rental Income			
	Retail			
<b>Total Office Jobs:</b>				

The approval of this Form I-924 application, supported by the exemplar Form I-526 petition, is based upon the assumptions and estimates used as inputs in the business plan for job creation. Please refer to the input and multiplier analysis table above.

(b)(4)

The economic analysis accurately portrays the assumptions stated in the business plan, and the calculations using IMPLAN multipliers are verifiable. The applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the project is expected to result in the creation of approximately  direct, indirect, and induced jobs from construction and hotel operation activities associated with the Pennsylvania Regional Center LP, VIII project.

USCIS will give deference to the job creation methodology when adjudicating Forms I-526 and I-829 associated with Pennsylvania Regional Center LP, VIII project. Deference,

<sup>2</sup> These industry codes are used for informational purposes in estimating job creation and do not limit the economic or job creating activity of an approved regional center or its investors. Jobs created in industries not previously identified in the economic methodology may still be credited to the investors in subsequent Form I-526 and Form I-829 filings, as long as the evidence in the record establishes that it is probably true that the requisite jobs are estimated to be created, or have been created, in those additional industries.

<sup>3</sup> For complete list of multipliers, eligible/non-eligible jobs and individual industry category revenue, see USCIS approved Economic Impact Analysis, dated March 13, 2014.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., footnote 2

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., footnote 3

however, will not apply if the underlying facts have materially changed, there is evidence of fraud or misrepresentation in the record of proceeding, or the previously favorable decision is determined to be legally deficient (involved an objective mistake of fact or law).

It will be the responsibility of the individual investor to demonstrate that the assumptions and estimates presented as inputs to the job creation methodology remain materially unchanged when he or she files a Form I-526. When filing Form I-829 for removal of conditional status, the individual investor has the burden of demonstrating that the assumptions and estimates presented as inputs to the job creation methodology have not materially changed and have been realized (or can be expected to be realized within a reasonable time). If the assumptions and estimates presented as inputs to the job creation methodology have materially changed, an updated business plan and economic analysis may need to be submitted to establish eligibility.

If the job creation estimated in the business plan and economic analysis will not be realized, then it will be the responsibility of the EB-5 investor to notify USCIS of an agreed upon methodology to allocate job creation among eligible investors.

**V. Guidelines for Filing Form I-526 Petitions based on the Pennsylvania Regional Center, LP, VIII project**

Each individual petition, in order to demonstrate that it is affiliated with the Pennsylvania DCED Regional Center, in conjunction with addressing all the requirements for an individual immigrant investor petition, shall also contain the following:

1. A copy of this regional center approval notice and designation letter including all subsequent amendment approval letters (if applicable).
2. An economic impact analysis which reflects a job creation methodology required at 8 CFR § 204.6(j)(4)(iii) and shows how the capital investment by the individual immigrant investor will more likely than not create ten (10) jobs.
3. A comprehensive, detailed and credible business plan for an actual project that contains the factual details necessary to be in compliance with the requirements described in *Matter of Ho*.
4. Legally executed organizational documents of the commercial enterprise. The documents may be the same documents noted in Section III of this approval notice.
5. If the project timeline has changed significantly from the original business plan, a narrative that explains the changes in the project timeline, along with a timeline that realistically reflects the status of the project should be submitted.

## **VI. Designee's Responsibilities in the Operations of the Regional Center**

As provided in 8 CFR § 204.6(m)(6), to ensure that the regional center continues to meet the requirements of section 610(a) of the Appropriations Act, a regional center must provide USCIS with updated information to demonstrate the regional center is continuing to promote economic growth, improved regional productivity, job creation, and increased domestic capital investment in the approved geographic area. Such information must be submitted to USCIS on an annual basis or as otherwise requested by USCIS. The applicant must monitor all investment activities under the sponsorship of the regional center and to maintain records in order to provide the information required on the Form I-924A, Supplement to Form I-924. Form I-924A is available in the "Forms" section on the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

Regional centers that remain designated for participation in the Immigrant Investor Program as of September 30th of a calendar year are required to file Form I-924A in that year. The Form I-924A with the required supporting documentation must be filed on or before December 29th of the same calendar year.

The failure to timely file a Form I-924A for each fiscal year in which the regional center has been designated for participation in the Immigrant Investor Program will result in the issuance of an intent to terminate the participation of the regional center in the Immigrant Investor Program, which may ultimately result in the termination of the designation of the regional center.

The regional center designation is non-transferable.

## **VII. Legal Notice**

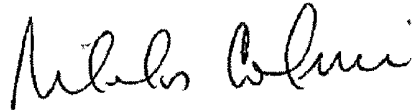
This approval and designation of a Regional Center under the Immigrant Investor Program does not constitute or imply an endorsement or recommendation by USCIS, the United States Government or any instrumentality thereof, of the investment opportunities, projects or other business activities related to or undertaken by such Regional Center. Except as expressly set forth in this approval and designation, USCIS has not reviewed any information provided in connection with or otherwise related to the Regional Center for compliance with relevant securities laws or any other laws unrelated to eligibility for designation as a Regional Center. Accordingly USCIS makes no determination or representation whatsoever regarding the compliance of either the Regional Center or associated New Commercial Enterprises with such laws.

Each Regional Center designated by USCIS must monitor and oversee all investment offerings and activities associated with, through or under the sponsorship of the Regional Center. The failure of an associated New Commercial Enterprise to comply with all laws and regulations related to such investment offerings and activities may result in the issuance by USCIS of a notice of intent to terminate the Regional Center designation.

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If the applicant has any questions concerning the regional center designation under the Immigrant Investor Program, please contact USCIS by email at [USCIS.ImmigrantInvestorProgram@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:USCIS.ImmigrantInvestorProgram@uscis.dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Nicholas Colucci  
Chief, Immigrant Investor Program

cc: Tom Rosenfeld  
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New York, NY 10005