



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

**DATE**

Daniel Miller  
1519 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036

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

Regional Center: WestMill Mid-Atlantic Regional Center, LLC  
ID1033650029

Re: Request to Amend Regional Center Designation  
Project: DCEP Lender I LLC  
RCW1410751736

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 April 16, 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 DCEP Lender I LLC 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 DCEP Lender I LLC will be a new commercial enterprise (NCE) and that the project is likely to result in the creation of at least  jobs. 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 DCEP Lender I LLC 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 June 29, 2011, USCIS approved the WestMill Mid-Atlantic Regional Center, LLC (“WestMill”) for participation in the Immigrant Investor Program as a designated regional center with an approved geographical scope of the Washington, DC-Baltimore-Northern Virginia Combined Statistical Area (CSA) and Richmond, VA Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). WestMill now seeks to amend its previously approved regional center designation to include an actual project that will be managed by DCEP Lender I LLC, an NCE established on February 28, 2014.

**III. The 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
DCEP Lender I LLC  Geographic Location: Washington, DC  Exemplar of Form I-526	Apartment Building and Retail Space  Investment: Loans and Equity	Business Plan	2/10/2014
		Economic Analysis	1/27/2014
		Confidential Private Placement Memorandum	3/21/2014
		Subscription Booklet	Filed 4/16/2014
		Second Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement	3/21/2014
		Amended and Restated Escrow Agreement	3/21/2014
		Valbridge Property Advisors Market Assessment	12/23/2013
		Gill Group Appraisal of 1031 4 <sup>th</sup> St., NW	1/23/2014
		USCIS RC Approval Letter	6/29/2011
		Cassidy Turley Opinion of Value (of the property)	12/30/2013
		EB-5 Loan Term Sheet	1/26/2014
		NCE Certificate of Formation	2/28/2014

**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 DCEP Lender I LLC, which was formed in the State of Delaware on February 28, 2014. The DCEP Lender I LLC project is located in Washington, DC. Approximately [ ] EB-5 investors will subscribe to the NCE as limited partners. If this is accepted as a Targeted Employment Area (TEA) at the I-526 stage, these investors would each contribute [ ] for an aggregate total of [ ] (Otherwise, if this is not a TEA, they would each contribute [ ])

(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 RIMS II economic model:

NAICS <sup>1</sup>	Industry Name	Input (\$Millions in 2010 \$)	Multiplier	Jobs
2362	Construction	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
5413	Architecture & Engineering Services			
4200	Wholesale Trade			
5310	Real Estate			
<b>Total 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 RIMS II 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 [ ] jobs from the

<sup>1</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.

construction, architecture & engineering services, wholesale trade, and real estate activities associated with the DCEP Lender I LLC project.

USCIS will give deference to the job creation methodology when adjudicating Forms I-526 and I-829 associated with the DCEP Lender I LLC 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).

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 DCEP Lender I LLC Project**

Each individual petition, in order to demonstrate that it is affiliated with the WestMill Mid-Atlantic Regional Center, LLC, 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.

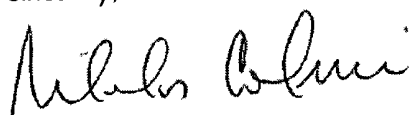
#### VII. Legal Notice

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.

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,



WestMill Mid-Atlantic Regional Center, LLC  
ID1033650029  
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Page 6

Nicholas Colucci  
Chief, Immigrant Investor Program