

**(3) Expedited review of applications****(A) In general**

Following the six-month period described in section 488e(e) of this title, the Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, issue or deny registration numbers under this part not later than 72 hours after the time the Secretary receives a complete registration application, unless the Secretary determines, in the interest of national security, that additional time is necessary to review an application.

**(B) Notice of application status**

In all cases, the Secretary shall notify a person seeking to register with the Department under subsection (c) or (d) of the status of the application of that person not later than 72 hours after the time the Secretary receives a complete registration application.

**(4) Expedited appeals process****(A) Requirement****(i) Appeals process**

The Secretary shall establish an expedited appeals process for persons denied a registration number under this part.

**(ii) Time period for resolution**

The Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, resolve appeals not later than 72 hours after receiving a complete request for appeal unless the Secretary determines, in the interest of national security, that additional time is necessary to resolve an appeal.

**(B) Consultation**

The Secretary, in developing the appeals process under subparagraph (A), shall consult with appropriate stakeholders.

**(C) Guidance**

The Secretary shall provide guidance regarding the procedures and information required for an appeal under subparagraph (A) to any person denied a registration number under this part.

**(5) Restrictions on use and maintenance of information****(A) In general**

Any information constituting grounds for denial of a registration number under this section shall be maintained confidentially by the Secretary and may be used only for making determinations under this section.

**(B) Sharing of information**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the Secretary may share any such information with Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies, as appropriate.

**(6) Registration information****(A) Authority to require information**

The Secretary may require a person applying for a registration number under this part to submit such information as may be necessary to carry out the requirements of this section.

**(B) Requirement to update information**

The Secretary may require persons issued a registration under this part to update registration information submitted to the Secretary under this part, as appropriate.

**(7) Re-checks against terrorist screening database****(A) Re-checks**

The Secretary shall, as appropriate, re-check persons provided a registration number pursuant to this part against the terrorist screening database of the Department, and may revoke such registration number if the Secretary determines such person may pose a threat to national security.

**(B) Notice of revocation**

The Secretary shall, as appropriate, provide prior notice to a person whose registration number is revoked under this section and such person shall have an opportunity to appeal, as provided in paragraph (4).

(Pub. L. 107-296, title VIII, § 899B, as added Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, § 563(a), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2084.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The USA PATRIOT ACT, referred to in subsec. (h)(1), is Pub. L. 107-56, Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 272, also known as the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2001 Amendment note set out under section 1 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, and Tables.

**§ 488b. Inspection and auditing of records**

The Secretary shall establish a process for the periodic inspection and auditing of the records maintained by owners of ammonium nitrate facilities for the purpose of monitoring compliance with this part or for the purpose of deterring or preventing the misappropriation or use of ammonium nitrate in an act of terrorism.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title VIII, § 899C, as added Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, § 563(a), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2087.)

**§ 488c. Administrative provisions****(a) Cooperative agreements**

The Secretary—

(1) may enter into a cooperative agreement with the Secretary of Agriculture, or the head of any State department of agriculture or its designee involved in agricultural regulation, in consultation with the State agency responsible for homeland security, to carry out the provisions of this part; and

(2) wherever possible, shall seek to cooperate with State agencies or their designees that oversee ammonium nitrate facility operations when seeking cooperative agreements to implement the registration and enforcement provisions of this part.

**(b) Delegation****(1) Authority**

The Secretary may delegate to a State the authority to assist the Secretary in the administration and enforcement of this part.

**(2) Delegation required**

At the request of a Governor of a State, the Secretary shall delegate to that State the authority to carry out functions under sections 488a and 488b of this title, if the Secretary determines that the State is capable of satisfactorily carrying out such functions.

**(3) Funding**

Subject to the availability of appropriations, if the Secretary delegates functions to a State under this subsection, the Secretary shall provide to that State sufficient funds to carry out the delegated functions.

**(c) Provision of guidance and notification materials to ammonium nitrate facilities****(1) Guidance**

The Secretary shall make available to each owner of an ammonium nitrate facility registered under section 488a(c)(1) of this title guidance on—

(A) the identification of suspicious ammonium nitrate purchases or transfers or attempted purchases or transfers;

(B) the appropriate course of action to be taken by the ammonium nitrate facility owner with respect to such a purchase or transfer or attempted purchase or transfer, including—

(i) exercising the right of the owner of the ammonium nitrate facility to decline sale of ammonium nitrate; and

(ii) notifying appropriate law enforcement entities; and

(C) additional subjects determined appropriate to prevent the misappropriation or use of ammonium nitrate in an act of terrorism.

**(2) Use of materials and programs**

In providing guidance under this subsection, the Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, leverage any relevant materials and programs.

**(3) Notification materials****(A) In general**

The Secretary shall make available materials suitable for posting at locations where ammonium nitrate is sold.

**(B) Design of materials**

Materials made available under subparagraph (A) shall be designed to notify prospective ammonium nitrate purchasers of—

(i) the record-keeping requirements under section 488a of this title; and

(ii) the penalties for violating such requirements.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title VIII, §899D, as added Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, §563(a), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2087.)

**§ 488d. Theft reporting requirement**

Any person who is required to comply with section 488a(e) of this title who has knowledge of the theft or unexplained loss of ammonium nitrate shall report such theft or loss to the appropriate Federal law enforcement authorities not later than 1 calendar day of the date on which

the person becomes aware of such theft or loss. Upon receipt of such report, the relevant Federal authorities shall inform State, local, and tribal law enforcement entities, as appropriate.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title VIII, §899E, as added Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, §563(a), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2088.)

**§ 488e. Prohibitions and penalty****(a) Prohibitions****(1) Taking possession**

No person shall purchase ammonium nitrate from an ammonium nitrate facility unless such person is registered under subsection (c) or (d) of section 488a of this title, or is an agent of a person registered under subsection (c) or (d) of that section.

**(2) Transferring possession**

An owner of an ammonium nitrate facility shall not transfer possession of ammonium nitrate from the ammonium nitrate facility to any ammonium nitrate purchaser who is not registered under subsection (c) or (d) of section 488a of this title, or to any agent acting on behalf of an ammonium nitrate purchaser when such purchaser is not registered under subsection (c) or (d) of section 488a of this title.

**(3) Other prohibitions**

No person shall—

(A) purchase ammonium nitrate without a registration number required under subsection (c) or (d) of section 488a of this title;

(B) own or operate an ammonium nitrate facility without a registration number required under section 488a(c) of this title; or

(C) fail to comply with any requirement or violate any other prohibition under this part.

**(b) Civil penalty**

A person that violates this part may be assessed a civil penalty by the Secretary of not more than \$50,000 per violation.

**(c) Penalty considerations**

In determining the amount of a civil penalty under this section, the Secretary shall consider—

(1) the nature and circumstances of the violation;

(2) with respect to the person who commits the violation, any history of prior violations, the ability to pay the penalty, and any effect the penalty is likely to have on the ability of such person to do business; and

(3) any other matter that the Secretary determines that justice requires.

**(d) Notice and opportunity for a hearing**

No civil penalty may be assessed under this part unless the person liable for the penalty has been given notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the violation for which the penalty is to be assessed in the county, parish, or incorporated city of residence of that person.

**(e) Delay in application of prohibition**

Paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) shall apply on and after the date that is 6 months