

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

In the Matter of:

Coastal PVA Technology, Inc.  
4031 Alvis Court  
Rocklin, CA 95677

Respondent

ORDER RELATING TO  
COASTAL PVA TECHNOLOGY, INC.

The Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce (“BIS”), has notified Coastal PVA Technology, Inc. of Rocklin, California (“Coastal” or the “Company”) of its intention to initiate an administrative proceeding against Coastal pursuant to Section 766.3 of the Export Administration Regulations (the “Regulations”),<sup>1</sup> through the issuance of a Proposed Charging Letter to Coastal that alleges that Coastal committed eighteen (18) violations of the Regulations. Specifically:

**STATEMENT OF CHARGES**

Coastal is a California-based company that manufactures and exports polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) brushes, which can be used in the semiconductor manufacturing process. As described in further detail below, between May 2021 and May 2024, Coastal violated the EAR by selling such brushes for export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) to parties on the BIS Entity List in China without the requisite license or authorization from BIS. Specifically, using two third-party distributors, Coastal sold brushes and related products, valued at approximately \$400,088, to Semiconductor Manufacturing International (Beijing) Corporation (“SMIC Beijing”) and Semiconductor Manufacturing North China (Beijing) Corporation (“SMIC North”). At all relevant times, a license was required for the export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) of such items to SMIC Beijing and SMIC North.

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<sup>1</sup> The Regulations are currently codified in the Code of Federal Regulations at 15 C.F.R. Parts 730-774 (2025). The charged violations occurred in 2021 through 2024. The Regulations governing the violations at issue are found in the 2021 through 2024 versions of the Code of Federal Regulations (15 C.F.R. Parts 730-774). The 2025 Regulations set forth the procedures that apply to this matter.

**Charges 1–18            15 C.F.R. § 764.2(a) – Engaging in Prohibited Conduct**

1. Between on or about May 15, 2021 and May 19, 2024, Coastal engaged in conduct prohibited by the Regulations on 18 occasions when it sold and exported items subject to the EAR to SMIC Beijing and SMIC North—both parties on the Entity List<sup>2</sup>—without the requisite license or other authorization from BIS.
2. Pursuant to § 744.11 and Supplement No. 4 to Part 744 of the EAR, a license is required to export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) any item subject to the EAR when an entity that is listed on the Entity List is a party to the transaction as described in § 748.5(c)-(f) of the EAR. At all times relevant to the charges in this letter, BIS authorization was required to export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) any item subject to the EAR to SMIC Beijing or SMIC North. Coastal never sought or received any license or other authorization from BIS for these exports.
3. Among other products, at its facilities in California, Coastal manufactures polyvinyl alcohol brushes and related products, which can be used in the semiconductor manufacturing process to clean post-etched semiconductor wafers. The brushes and related products exported by Coastal were of U.S.-origin, subject to the EAR, and classified as EAR99.<sup>3</sup>
4. During the relevant time period, Coastal sold its brushes and related products to end users in China through two third-party distributors based in China. At times, even when it sold the brushes and related products through these distributors, COASTAL in fact shipped the items directly to SMIC Beijing or SMIC North. At other times, COASTAL shipped the items to the distributors, who subsequently transferred the items to SMIC Beijing or SMIC North. For all shipments, COASTAL knew that its brushes were destined for SMIC Beijing or SMIC North.
5. Coastal sold the brushes and related products at issue without identifying the need for a license because of inadequate compliance controls. Coastal had no formal export compliance policies or procedures in place at the time of the relevant sales. After receiving an inquiry from BIS, a senior executive at Coastal stated that Coastal was unaware that unlicensed sales of EAR99 items to SMIC Beijing or SMIC North were prohibited by the Regulations. Coastal ceased further sales to SMIC Beijing and SMIC North after being informed of the licensing requirement.

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<sup>2</sup> See 85 Fed. Reg. 83,420 (Dec. 22, 2020). Following the conduct discussed in this proposed charging letter, BIS updated the Entity List and maintained the inclusion of both SMIC Beijing and SMIC North on the Entity List. 89 Fed. Reg. 96,836 (Dec. 5, 2024).

<sup>3</sup> EAR99 is a designation for items subject to the EAR but not listed on the Commerce Control List. See Section 734.3(c) of the EAR.

6. By engaging in the above-described conduct, Coastal committed 18 violations of Section 764.2(a) of the Regulations.

WHEREAS, BIS and Coastal have entered into a Settlement Agreement pursuant to Section 766.18(a) of the Regulations, whereby they agreed to settle this matter in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein;

WHEREAS, Coastal admits committing the alleged conduct described in the Proposed Charging Letter; and

WHEREAS, I have approved of the terms of such Settlement Agreement;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

FIRST, Coastal shall be assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,700,000. Payment of the \$1,700,000 civil penalty shall be fully suspended<sup>4</sup> for a period of one year from the date of this order, and thereafter shall be waived, provided that during this probationary period Coastal has otherwise complied with the provisions of the Settlement Agreement and Order including conducting export control compliance training and completing an audit as described below; and has committed no other violation of the Regulations or any order, license, or authorization issued thereunder. If Coastal fails to comply with any of the provisions of the Settlement Agreement and Order, the \$1,700,000 suspended civil penalty may be activated and become immediately due and owing in full.

SECOND, that, pursuant to the Debt Collection Act of 1982, as amended (31 U.S.C. §§ 3701-3720E (2012)), the civil penalty owed under this Order accrues

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<sup>4</sup> BIS agreed to suspend the monetary penalty based on a demonstrated limited ability to pay in accordance with BIS's penalty guidance. *See* Supplement No. 1 to 15 C.F.R. Part 766.

interest as more fully described in the attached Notice, and if payment is not made by the due date specified herein, Coastal will be assessed, in addition to the full amount of the civil penalty and interest, a penalty charge and an administrative charge, as more fully described in the attached Notice.

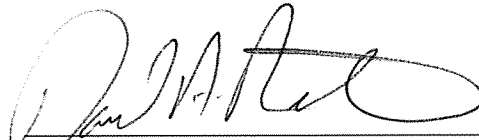
THIRD, Coastal personnel who handle export compliance shall complete an export compliance training on the Regulations within six (6) months from the date of the Order. Before Coastal attends a compliance training course or program, Coastal shall notify the Office of Export Enforcement, San Jose Field Office of the course or program they have selected to attend. No later than one month after attending the compliance training course or program, Coastal shall submit a certification for all employees who completed the training to the Office of Export Enforcement, 160 W. Santa Clara Street, Suite 725, San Jose, California 95113 (“San Jose Field Office”).

FOURTH, Coastal shall complete an internal audit of its export controls compliance program, within nine (9) months from the date of the Order, covering the six (6) months following the date of the Order. Coastal shall submit the results of the audit, including any relevant supporting materials, to the San Jose Field Office. Said audit shall be in substantial compliance with the Export Compliance Program sample audit module attached to this agreement and shall include an assessment of Coastal’s compliance with the Regulations. In addition, where said audit identifies actual or potential violations of the Regulations, Coastal shall promptly disclose such violations and provide copies of the export control documents and supporting documentation to the BIS San Jose Field Office.

FIFTH, the timely completion and submission of the verification of attendance of an export compliance training as set forth above and the timely completion of the internal audit and submission of audit results as set forth above are hereby made conditions to the granting, restoration, or continuing validity of any export license, license exception, permission, or privilege granted, or to be granted, to Coastal.

SIXTH, the Proposed Charging Letter, the Settlement Agreement, and this Order shall be made available to the public.

This Order, which constitutes the final agency action in this matter, is effective immediately.



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David Peters  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce  
for Export Enforcement

Issued this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

In the Matter of:

Coastal PVA Technology, Inc.  
4031 Alvis Court  
Rocklin, CA 95677

Respondent

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Coastal PVA Technology, Inc. (“Coastal” or the “Company”), and the Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce (“BIS”) (collectively, the “Parties”), pursuant to Section 766.18(a) of the Export Administration Regulations (the “Regulations”).<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, BIS has notified Coastal of its intention to initiate an administrative proceeding against Coastal, pursuant to the Regulations;

WHEREAS, BIS has issued a Proposed Charging Letter to Coastal that alleges that Coastal committed eighteen (18) violations of the Regulations, specifically:

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Coastal is a California-based company that manufactures and exports polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) brushes, which can be used in the semiconductor manufacturing process. As described in further detail below, between May 2021 and May 2024, Coastal violated the EAR by selling such brushes for export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) to parties on the BIS Entity List in China without the requisite license or authorization from BIS. Specifically, using two third-party distributors, Coastal sold brushes and related products, valued at approximately \$400,088, to Semiconductor Manufacturing International (Beijing) Corporation (“SMIC Beijing”) and Semiconductor Manufacturing North China (Beijing) Corporation (“SMIC North”). At all relevant times, a license was required for

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prohibited by the Regulations. Coastal ceased further sales to SMIC Beijing and SMIC North after being informed of the licensing requirement.

6. By engaging in the above-described conduct, Coastal committed 18 violations of Section 764.2(a) of the Regulations.

WHEREAS, Coastal has reviewed the Proposed Charging Letter and is aware of the allegations made against it and the administrative sanctions that could be imposed against it if the allegations are found to be true;

WHEREAS, Coastal fully understands the terms of this Agreement and the Order (“Order”) that the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Enforcement, or appropriate designee, will issue if he approves this Agreement as the final resolution of this matter;

WHEREAS, Coastal enters into this Agreement voluntarily and with full knowledge of its rights, after having consulted with counsel;

WHEREAS, Coastal states that no promises or representations have been made to it other than the agreements and considerations herein expressed;

WHEREAS, Coastal admits committing the alleged conduct described in the Proposed Charging Letter; and

WHEREAS, Coastal agrees to be bound by the Order, if issued;

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties hereby agree, for purposes of this Settlement Agreement, as follows:

1. BIS has jurisdiction over Coastal, under the Regulations, in connection with the matters alleged in the Proposed Charging Letter.
2. The following sanctions shall be imposed against Coastal:


be in substantial compliance with the Export Compliance Program sample audit module on the BIS website at [https://www.bis.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ECP\\_0.pdf](https://www.bis.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ECP_0.pdf) and shall include an assessment of Coastal's compliance with the Regulations. In addition, where said audit identifies actual or potential violations of the Regulations, Coastal shall promptly disclose such violations and provide copies of the export control documents and supporting documentation to the BIS San Jose Field Office.

d. The timely completion and submission of the verification of attendance of an export compliance training agreed to in Paragraph 2.b and the timely completion of the internal audit and submission of the audit results in Paragraph 2.c, above are hereby made conditions to the granting, restoration, or continuing validity of any export license, license exception, permission, or privilege granted, or to be granted, to Coastal.

3. Subject to the approval of this Agreement pursuant to Paragraph 7 hereof, Coastal hereby waives all rights to further procedural steps in this matter, including, without limitation, any right to: (a) an administrative hearing regarding the allegations in any charging letter; (b) request a refund of any civil penalty paid pursuant to this Agreement and the Order, if issued; and (c) seek judicial review or otherwise contest the validity of this Agreement or the Order, if issued. Coastal also waives and will not assert any Statute of Limitations defense, and the Statute of Limitations will be tolled, in connection with any violation of the Act or the Regulations arising out of the transactions identified in the Proposed Charging Letter or in connection with collection of the civil penalty or enforcement of this Agreement and the Order, if issued, from the date of the Order, until two years from the date of the Order.


9. Each signatory affirms that he/she has authority to enter into this Settlement Agreement and to bind his/her respective party to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND  
SECURITY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMERCE

  
Steven Fisher  
Acting Director of Export Enforcement

Date: 4/13/20

COASTAL PVA TECHNOLOGY, INC.

  
Briant Benson  
Owner  
Coastal PVA Technology, Inc.

Date: 3/18/20



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Bureau of Industry and Security**  
**Office of Export Enforcement**  
1401 Constitution Avenue, Suite 4508  
Washington, DC 20230

## PROPOSED CHARGING LETTER

Coastal PVA Technology, Inc.  
4031 Alvis Court  
Rocklin, CA 95677

Dear Coastal PVA Technology, Inc.:

The Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce (“BIS”), has reason to believe that Coastal PVA Technology, Inc. (“Coastal”) is responsible for 18 violations of the Export Administration Regulations (the “EAR” or “Regulations”).<sup>1</sup> Specifically, BIS alleges and charges the following violations:

### GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

Coastal is a California-based company that manufactures and exports polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) brushes, which can be used in the semiconductor manufacturing process. As described in further detail below, between May 2021 and May 2024, Coastal violated the EAR by selling such brushes for export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) to parties on the BIS Entity List in China without the requisite license or authorization from BIS. Specifically, using two third-party distributors, Coastal sold brushes and related products, valued at approximately \$400,088, to Semiconductor Manufacturing International (Beijing) Corporation (“SMIC Beijing”) and Semiconductor Manufacturing North China (Beijing) Corporation (“SMIC North”). At all relevant times, a license was required for the export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) of such items to SMIC Beijing and SMIC North.

### STATEMENT OF CHARGES

#### **Charges 1–18      15 C.F.R. § 764.2(a) – Engaging in Prohibited Conduct**

1. Between on or about May 15, 2021 and May 19, 2024, Coastal engaged in conduct prohibited by the Regulations on 18 occasions when it sold and exported items subject to the EAR to SMIC Beijing and SMIC North—both parties on the Entity List<sup>2</sup>—without the requisite license or other authorization from BIS.

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<sup>1</sup> The Regulations are currently codified in the Code of Federal Regulations at 15 C.F.R. Parts 730-774 (2025). The charged violations occurred in 2021 through 2024. The Regulations governing the violations at issue are found in the 2021 through 2024 versions of the Code of Federal Regulations (15 C.F.R. Parts 730-774). The 2025 Regulations set forth the procedures that apply to this matter.

<sup>2</sup> See 85 Fed. Reg. 83,420 (Dec. 22, 2020). Following the conduct discussed in this proposed charging letter, BIS updated the Entity List and maintained the inclusion of both SMIC Beijing and SMIC North on the Entity List. 89 Fed. Reg. 96,836 (Dec. 5, 2024).



2. Pursuant to § 744.11 and Supplement No. 4 to Part 744 of the EAR, a license is required to export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) any item subject to the EAR when an entity that is listed on the Entity List is a party to the transaction as described in § 748.5(c)-(f) of the EAR. At all times relevant to the charges in this letter, BIS authorization was required to export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) any item subject to the EAR to SMIC Beijing or SMIC North. Coastal never sought or received any license or other authorization from BIS for these exports.
3. Among other products, at its facilities in California, Coastal manufactures polyvinyl alcohol brushes and related products, which can be used in the semiconductor manufacturing process to clean post-etched semiconductor wafers. The brushes and related products exported by Coastal were of U.S.-origin, subject to the EAR, and classified as EAR99.<sup>3</sup>
4. During the relevant time period, Coastal sold its brushes and related products to end users in China through two third-party distributors based in China. At times, even when it sold the brushes and related products through these distributors, Coastal in fact shipped the items directly to SMIC Beijing or SMIC North. At other times, Coastal shipped the items to the distributors, who subsequently transferred the items to SMIC Beijing or SMIC North. For all shipments, Coastal knew that its brushes were destined for SMIC Beijing or SMIC North.
5. Coastal sold the brushes and related products at issue without identifying the need for a license because of inadequate compliance controls. Coastal had no formal export compliance policies or procedures in place at the time of the relevant sales. After receiving an inquiry from BIS, a senior executive at Coastal stated that Coastal was unaware that unlicensed sales of EAR99 items to SMIC Beijing or SMIC North were prohibited by the Regulations. Coastal ceased further sales to SMIC Beijing and SMIC North after being informed of the licensing requirement.
6. By engaging in the above-described conduct, Coastal committed 18 violations of Section 764.2(a) of the Regulations.

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Accordingly, Coastal is hereby notified that an administrative proceeding is instituted against it pursuant to Part 766 of the Regulations for the purpose of obtaining an order imposing administrative sanctions, including, but not limited to, any or all of the following:

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<sup>3</sup> EAR99 is a designation for items subject to the EAR but not listed on the Commerce Control List. *See* Section 734.3(c) of the EAR.

- The maximum civil penalty allowed by law of up to the greater of \$374,474 per violation,<sup>4</sup> or twice the value of the transaction that is the basis of the violation;<sup>5</sup>
- Denial of export privileges;
- Exclusion from practice before BIS; and/or
- Any other liability, sanction, or penalty available under law.

If Coastal fails to answer the charges contained in this letter within 30 days after being served with notice of issuance of this letter, that failure will be treated as a default. *See* 15 C.F.R.

§§ 766.6 and 766.7. If Coastal defaults, the Administrative Law Judge may find the charges alleged in this letter are true without a hearing or further notice to Coastal. 15 C.F.R. § 766.7(a). Coastal may then be subject to a sanction of up to the maximum penalty amount for the charges in this letter.

Coastal is further notified that it is entitled to an agency hearing on the record if it files a written demand for one with any answer. *See* 15 C.F.R. § 766.6. Coastal is also entitled to be represented by counsel or other authorized representative who has power of attorney to represent it. *See* 15 C.F.R. §§ 766.3(a) and 766.4.

The Regulations provide for settlement without a hearing. *See* 15 C.F.R. § 766.18. Should Coastal have a proposal to settle this case, it should transmit it to the attorneys representing BIS named below.

Coastal is further notified that under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Flexibility Act, Coastal may be eligible for assistance from the Office of the National Ombudsman of the Small Business Administration in this matter. To determine eligibility and get more information, please see: <http://www.sba.gov/ombudsman/>.

The U.S. Coast Guard is providing administrative law judge services in connection with the matters set forth in this letter. Accordingly, Coastal's answer must be filed in accordance with the instructions in Section 766.5(a) of the Regulations with:

U.S. Coast Guard ALJ Docketing Center  
40 S. Gay Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-4022

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<sup>4</sup> *See* 15 C.F.R. § 6.3(c)(6). This amount is subject to annual increases pursuant to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, Sec. 701 of Public Law 114-74, enacted on November 2, 2015. *See* 89 Fed. Reg. 106,308 (Dec. 30, 2024) (adjusting for inflation the maximum civil monetary penalty under the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 from \$364,992 to 374,474, effective January 15, 2025).

<sup>5</sup> *See* Export Control Reform Act of 2018, 50 U.S.C. § 4819(c)(1)(A) (2019).

In addition, a copy of Coastal's answer must be served on BIS at the following address:

Chief Counsel for Industry and Security  
Attention: Kimberly Hsu and Malorie Eisenbrei  
Room H-3839  
14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Kimberly Hsu and Malorie Eisenbrei are the attorneys representing BIS in this case; any communications that Coastal may wish to have concerning this matter should occur through them. Ms. Hsu and Ms. Eisenbrei may be contacted at 202-482-5301.

Sincerely,

Steven Fisher  
Acting Director  
Office of Export Enforcement