

HAGEN HEIGHTS

NAPA VALLEY

November 27, 2006

Director, Regulations and Rulings Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
Notice No. 68
PO Box 14412
Washington, D.C. 20044-4412

SUBJECT: Notice No. 68 Proposed Establishment of the Tulocay Vitacultural Area
(2006R-009P)

Dear Sirs,

This letter is in strong support for establishment of a new vitacultural area to be known as "Tulocay" in the southeastern area of California's Napa Valley grape growing region.

We believe that "Tulocay" will represent the goal of our federal government in creating vitacultural area "to better describe the origin of their wines and to allow consumers to better identify wines they may purchase". As grape growers and vintners from the proposed "Tulocay" area, we fully and completely agree with the petition as it describes the special climate, soils, topography, and unique history of our home grounds.

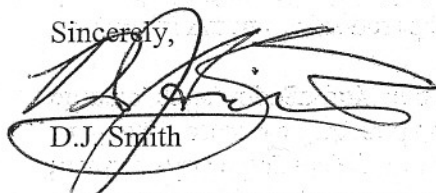
Grapes grown in the proposed area have always possessed a unique depth and complexity of flavor that is brought about by our longer growing season, early morning fog and coolness caused by our proximity to the Pacific Ocean. The detailed petition in support of this proposed rulemaking is an excellent description of why "Tulocay" is special enough to merit a designation that differentiates our grapes from grapes grown in other areas of the Napa Valley and nationally.

Finally, we would appreciate your assistance in expediting consideration of this rulemaking to an early and successful outcome. The wine business is a very competitive business and we believe the "Tulocay" designation will be helpful for growers in marketing our grapes and wine grown here in future years.

We very much appreciate your serious consideration of our views, and look forward to a rulemaking that will finalize the new "Tulocay" vitacultural area in our community.

We thank you for your work on this rulemaking.

Sincerely,



D.J. Smith

cc. Congressman Mike Thompson
Aaron Pott, Winemaker