

Sculpterra

Winery & Vineyards

Director Regulations and Rulings Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
Attn Notice No. 71
P.O. Box 14412
Washington DC 20044-4412
Fax # 202 927 8525

Comments regarding Paso Robles Westside Petition

My family owns a 160 acre vineyard and small winery in Paso Robles that is 5 miles east of the Salinas River and 5 miles south of Route 46. The area collectively known in the Petition as the "Eastside".

My home rests among rolling hills and oaks in my vineyard, and all I can see in any direction are more rolling hills along the Huer Huero Riverbed. The portion of Paso Robles that I live in is clearly not "Flat as a billiard table" as quoted from the unidentified wine writer in the petition.

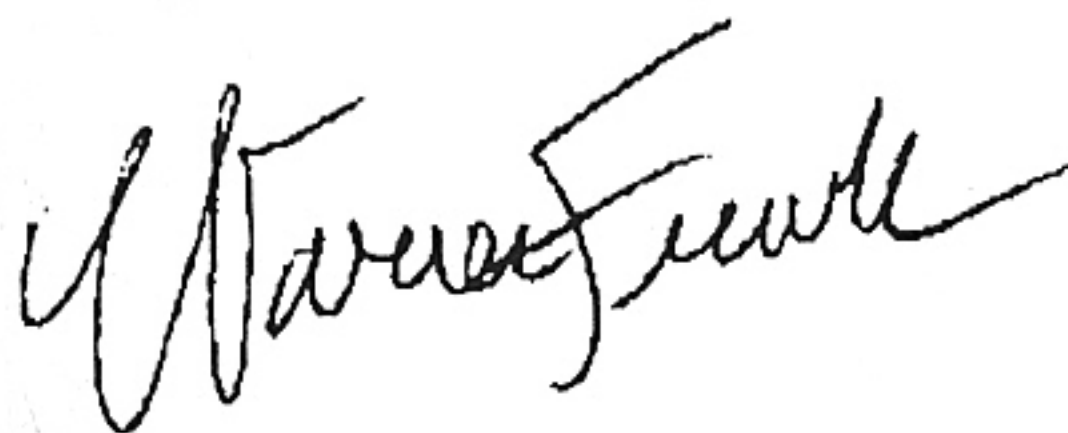
The petitioner identifies the Salinas River which runs north and south, as a historical geographical reference for many reasons that are true, but have no viticultural significance.

The petitioner acknowledges the significance of the maritime influence, which is a west to east influence without any evidence that the cooling influence stops at the Salinas River. I can tell you that the cooling influence of the ocean breezes coming through the Templeton Gap" extends to my vineyard, which routinely has a summer temperature difference over 50 degrees between the high and lows of the day. The point being, the cooling influence is reduced as you move north or south of the gap, in addition to moving far to the east.

In summary, the petition is an over simplification of a very diverse viticulture area. A more thorough study of the viticulturally significant areas with better scientific support is required to gain the benefits that are intended when a new AVA is established.

I would ask that this petition be denied.

Respectfully



Dr. Warren Frankel
Sculpterra Winery and Vineyards

