

From: Michael Mooney [mailto:michael@chateaumargene.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2007 2:20 PM
To: Rulemaking, TTB
Subject: Petition No.71

April, 19, 2007

Mr. Frank Foote, Director, Regulations and Rulings Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
Attention: Notice No. 71
P.O. Box 14412, Washington, D.C., 20044-4412.

Re: Notice No. 71

Mr. Foote:

This email is in response to the petition for the Paso Robles Westside AVA. There are several areas where this petition does not meet the regulatory criteria laid out for approval of a new AVA.

The size of the proposed area extends beyond what is locally known and referred to as Paso Robles Westside and includes parts of Santa Margarita and San Miguel.

The Salinas River is being inappropriately used as a dividing line for climate, soil types, elevation, geological landforms of varying age, natural vegetation and growing conditions conducive to wine grapes.

The petition for the proposed area of the Paso Robles Westside AVA is confusing, misleading and inaccurate. There is a great deal of diversity within the existing Paso Robles AVA. The Paso Robles AVA Committee has worked for the past year appropriately defining 11 unique areas which can be differentiated using scientific data. The same cannot be said for the Paso Robles Westside petition.

I urge you to reject Notice No. 71.

Regards,

Michael Mooney
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