

SHANDON HILLS VINEYARD
2550 TRUESDALE ROAD
SHANDON, CA 93461

April 23, 2007

Mr. Frank Foote, Director
Regulations and Relations and Ruling Division
Alcohol, Tobacco, Tax and Trade Bureau
Comments on Notice 71
P. O. Box 14412
Washington, DC 20044-4412

Dear Mr. Foote:

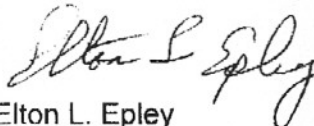
I am writing to oppose the proposed Westside AVA within the Paso Robles Appellation. I am writing both as a consumer of Paso Robles wines and as a California wine grape grower for over thirty years. I have owned and operated vineyards in the Paso Robles Appellation since 1984.

The proposed Westside AVA is geographically too long from north to south and has several problems. It includes very diverse growing areas. For example, it includes both the hottest and coolest growing areas within the appellation as well as the areas with the most and the least rainfall.

Our vineyards are located near Shandon and include varieties such as syrah and merlot which the application states are best suited to the West Side. However, our temperature data indicates lower degree day accumulations than areas that are included in the new AVA. Therefore, approval of the application will result in erroneous and misleading information to wine consumers who appellation delineations are intended to assist.

Please deny the application to form the Paso Robles Westside AVA as it simply is not in the best interest of the wine growers and consumers of wines from the Paso Robles area.

Sincerely,



Elton L. Epley
2609 Blue Water Dr.
Corona del Mar, CA 92625