ST. MARY SUGAR CO-OPERATIVE, Inc.

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July 15, 2003

Docket Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Sir / Madam:

Re: Docket No. 02N-0434, Withdrawal of Certain Proposed Rules and Other Proposed Actions; Notice of Intent

Specifically in reference to the proposed withdrawal of Docket No. 90N-361M, Declaration of Ingredients-Common or Usual Name Declaration for Protein Hydrolysates and Vegetable Broth in Canned Tuna; "And/Or" Labeling for Soft Drinks; 58 Fed Reg 2950, January 6, 1993

I write in support of the position expressed on this matter and voiced by the Sugar Association, Inc. of Washington, D.C. which is for your agency to formally withdraw all approval that permits "and/or" labeling for sweeteners in carbonated soft drinks and sweetened, still beverages. A twenty year track record is proof of the soft drink industry's longstanding disregard of FDA's advice, requests and formal warnings. Furthermore, in the past twenty years the soft drink industry has shown by its sole use of HFCS in "and/or" products that the merits of their argument has been predicated on a false premise that has misled the American public and the FDA.

I appreciate your attention to my letter of request and sincerely hope that you will rule favorably on the withdrawal of all approval on the "and/or" labeling issue. Thank you.

Sincerely.

Ronald J. Guillotte, Jr. General Manager

0210-0434

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