Gagne Distributing Company 1617 W. Spresser Street Taylorville, Illinois 62568 (217) 824-6763 Fax (217) 287-1266

Attn: TTB Notice No. 4 Chief Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

Dear Sir or Madam:

Beer is the beverage of moderation. We at Gagne Distributing Company support the proposed rule issued in March 2003 by the Tax and Trade Bureau that outlines the alcohol content requirements in order for flavored malt beverages to be classified as beer. Specifically, the TTB proposes that for an FMB to be classified as beer, its alcohol content from distilled alcohol cannot exceed 0.5%.

Once again, Gagne Distributing Company encourages the TTB to give final approval to the proposed 0.5% standard on FMBs.

Sincerely,

James M. Gagne President