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Gagne Distributing Company
1637 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 a unique product that has been regulated and taxed differently than other alcohol beverages throughout our nation's history. The TTB proposed rule is consistent with the historical interpretation of what constitutes beer and other malt beverages. Adoption of the TTB "0.5 by volume standard" would ensure the integrity of beer and the brewing process. If traditional distinctions disappear, it will only be a matter of time before other producers of alcohol beverages attempt to categorize themselves as beer products.

Sincerely,

Leann Pickel
Office Manager