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FOOD MARKETING INSTITUTE

September 12, 2003

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

Dear Sir or Madam:

On July 7, 2002, The Food Marketing Institute filed comments on TTB Notice No. 4 pertaining to "flavored malt beverages".

Since those comments were filed, the suppliers of these products have made substantial progress in addressing the concerns we raised at the time. FMI is currently satisfied that progress continues to be made toward a satisfactory resolution of these issues. Because our concerns are well on the way to being adequately addressed, we wish now to be neutral on the proposals concerning "flavored malt beverages" that you have under consideration.

The process of raising our concerns and then discussing them with our members and suppliers has been very helpful to us and to the industry. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in your TTB rulemaking process.

Best regards,

John J. Motley III
Senior Vice President
Government and Public Affairs