LEE DISTRIBUTORS

(845) 554-7837 Charleston (843) 521-1489 Beaufort

September 16, 2003

Attention: TTB Notice #4 Chief Regulations & Procedure Division Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, DC 20091-022 1

LEE Distributors supports the proposed rule issued in March 2003 by the TTB that outlines the alcohol requirements in order for flavored malt beverages to be classified as beer.

Please don't fall prey to the Spirits Companies wishing to do business with malt products pretending to be malt-based products such as beer.

In the State of South Carolina, where the State has identified malt base products with less than 5% alcohol by volume to be non-alcoholic and non-intoxicating, for tax purposes, Spirits Companies should not enjoy the same taxation rate or regulatory rate as those afforded to beer which meet the aforementioned requirements.

Sincerely yours,

Dennis J. Lee President LEE Distributors

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