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10/20/03 MON 18:25 FAX 303 444 4798 001
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ROCKIES BREWING COMPANY

Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau
202.927.8525
Dear TTB; 10/20/03

I am submitting my commetns to you in favor of the proposed rule .5% standard for FMB's. In the USA there has been a long history of distinction between wine, beer & distilled spirits. The brewing process is clearly stated and understandable in most of the 50 states as well as at the federal level.

I firmly believe that if a manufacturer is going to sell his product as a malt beverage it should be produced according to clearly defined brewing processes. The continued trend of FMB's ability to derive its alcohol content and flavoring from distilled spirits creates consumer confusion and increases government regulation on both the state and federal levels. I can only imagine that the German purity law for beer was enacted to protect the consumers as well.

As President of Rockies Brewing Company; we have been successfully brewing Boulder Beer since 1979. We are one of the oldest craft brewers in the country and our very proud of our brewing heritage. I do not believe we will be attempting to brew any FMB's but that being said I have no ax to grind with FMB's, I know that personal choice and access to market are two of the great privileges of our country. I do strongly feel that if you are going to call yourself a brewer, be perceived as a brewer and be taxed as a brewer then in fact you should held to a standard of brewing!

Sincerely,
Jeff Brown
President

Rockies Brewing Company

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