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Paul Carbone
Regional Sales Manager
Long Beach Brewing Company

September 10, 2003

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:

I am a supplier representative for Long Beach Brewing, and do not support the proposed rule issued in March 2003 by the Tax and Trade Bureau changing the classification of an FMB to having its alcohol content not exceed 0.5%. My company and I support the much more realistic rule of 51/49.

The 51/49 rule will add a reasonable benchmark to a category that already exists. The FMB's are popular in the market place and anything different would alter and hinder the FMB's performance.

It's a little late in the timeline to introduce something as ridiculous as is the 0.5% rule! Is the integrity of beer and its brewing process really at stake here? No it's not. The question I have about the 0.5% rule, is, was it written in Washington D.C. or St. Louis? Do the right thing, and go with the 51/49.

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