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Redding  
Distributing  
Company

August 13, 2003

Attn: TTB Notice No. 4

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
POBox 50221  
Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

Dear Sir or Madam:

Redding Distributing Company supports the proposed rule issued in March 2003 by the Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) that outlines the alcohol content requirements in order for flavored malt beverages (FMB) to be classified as beer. Specifically, the TTB proposes that for a FMB to be classified as beer, its alcohol content from distilled alcohol cannot exceed 0.5%.

The TTB proposed rule is consistent with the historical interpretation of what constitutes beer and other malt beverages. The definition of Beer in the Internal Revenue Code dates back to the 1800s when Congress first imposed the beer excise tax. Adoption of the TTB "0.5 by volume standard" would ensure the integrity of beer and the brewing process. Consistent regulatory policy is important.

Redding Distributing Company hopes that the Tax and Trade Bureau will approve the proposed 0.5% standard on flavored malt beverages.

Sincerely,

REDDING DISTRIBUTING COMPANPY

Rich Heath  
Delivery/Warehouse Manager

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