0040009 Vance's Evergreen John Vance Haymarket, VA 20169-2019

May 13,2003

Chief Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, D.C. 20091-0221 RE: TTB Notice No.4

Dear Sir/Madam:

It is hard enough for small businesses to compete with the billion dollar corporations like Wal-Mart because of all the taxes and regulations. Now the proposed new regulations under consideration by the TTB have the real potential to kill the market for flavored malt beverages by eliminating the product line or making it prohibitively expensive. Either way, my business would be badly hurt, and I won't be able to compete.

For three decades now the production, marketing and distribution of flavored malt beverages have been controlled by a set of regulations that continue to serve the needs of both government and business. Why does the TTB want to ruin thirty years of harmony with a new set of regulations?

Please oppose these proposed regulations that will be detrimental to small businesses. Your help in finding a compromise solution would also be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely Yours,

John Vence