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D-S BEVERAGES, INC.  
201 - 17 St. No. Moorhead, MN 56560• tel: (218) 233-1343

October 21,2003  
Attn: TTB Notice No. 4  
Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
P.O. Box 50221  
Washington, DC 20091-0221

Dear Sir or Madam:

D-S Beverages, Inc. of Moorhead, Minnesota strongly supports the proposed rule issued in March 2003 by the Tax and Trade Bureau that outlines the alcohol content requirements for flavored malt beverages (FMB) to be classified as beer. The proposal by the TTB is that the alcohol content from distilled alcohol cannot exceed 0.5%.

We believe this proposal is a consistent approach to how FMBs should be advertised, distributed, taxed and licensed as BEER. We also believe this will best serve the interests of consumers and will preserve the important historical distinction between beer and spirits.

As you well know, beer has been regulated and taxed differently than other alcohol beverages throughout our nation's history. The beer excise tax dates back to the 1800's and follows a specific definition as laid out by the Internal Revenue Code. The proposed rule is consistent with the historical interpretation of what constitutes beer and other malt beverages. We see no benefit or reason to alter that definition now.

Again, D-S Beverages urges your support to give final approval to the proposed "0.5% standard" on FMBs.

Sincerely,

Douglas K. Restemayer  
President, D-S Beverages

Budweiser Bud Light . Bud Dry . Bud Ice . Bud Ice Light . Michelob Michelob Light Michelob Dark . Michelob Dry AmberBock  
Red Wolf. Busch . Busch Light Busch Ice . Busch NA Natural Light . Natural Ice . King Cobra O'Doul's . O'DouL's Amber . Tequiza