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Neighborhood Wine & Spirits
N Little Rock, AR 72118-3604

May 12, 2003

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

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: TTB Notice Number Four

Flavored malt beverages, like Mike's Hard Lemonade and Smirnoff Ice, are becoming increasingly more popular. The sale of these beverages generates a lot of revenue for my small business. Now the ATF/TTB is proposing changes that would affect either the composition or the rate of taxation for these drinks. Either way the proposed changes will likely be the demise of the flavored malt beverage. Consequently, I will lose a lot of revenue from the loss of sales. The ramifications of this proposal are far reaching. I hope the ATF/TTB understands that.

The ATF/TTB has already determined that flavored malt beverage sales have no negative impact on federal excise tax receipts. Isn't it ironic they want to pass a proposal that would negatively impact tax receipts?

Your opposition to the proposed rule changes would help keep small retailers in business, save thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in excise taxes for the federal government. Please do everything you can to see this proposal does not become policy.

Sincerely,

