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Cargill

October 17, 2003

Via Hand Deliveiy and Facsimile (202-927-8525)

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
P.O. :Box 50221  
Washington, DC 20091-0221

Re: Tax and Trade Bureau Notice No.4

Dear Sir/Madam:

Cargill, Incorporated ('Cargill) would like to register its support for the proposed standard of composition for flavored malt beverages (FMBs") as set forth by the Tax and Trade Bureau in Notice No. 4 (the "ProposaJ").

Cargill is an international marketer, processor and distributor of agricultural, food, financial. and industrial products and services with 98,000 employees in 61 countries. The company provides distinctive customer solutions in supply chain management, food applications, and health and nutrition.

Cargill's global operations include significant malt barley processing activities within the United States and abroad and we are a significant supplier to the beer industry both domestically and internationally.

We are privilcgcd to not only serve our world-class brewing customers, but also thousands of farmers within the United States by providing a critical. outlet for their malting barley production. Our American producers now compete with a variety of international trade barriers, global competition and state trading enterprises that seek to displace their ability to maintain and grow markets for theit products.

The Proposal would serve to maintain demand for malt-based products that supports farniers who produce malt barley as well as the continucd development of our industry.

The Proposal also sets forth an important standard that preserves the integrity of beer's unique characteristics and age-old, traditional production processes. The Proposal also works to secure appropriate distinctions between beer and other alcoholic beverages that will. encourage consistent classification of these products at the state and national level. it will

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also encourage an open, transparent and orderly marketplace that maintains appropriate distinct definitions for beer, wine and spirits.

The Proposal will support American farmers, our malt barley and processing industry and ensure the appropriate classification of beer at the state and national level and we again register our support for the Proposal-

Yours truly.

Doug Eden  
President. Malt Americas