

OBERHELLMANN VINEYARDS

PHONE: (512) 685-3297

LLANO ROUTE - BOX 22
FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS 78624

March 31, 1988

Chief, Wine & Beer Division
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, & Firearms
P.O. Box 385
Washington, D.C. 20044-0385

RE: 27 CFR Part 9 (Notice 655)
Proposed Establishment of Fredericksburg
in the Texas Hill Country Viticultural Area.

We oppose using the name "Fredericksburg in the Texas Hill Country" for the following reasons:

- (1) The area boundaries proposed actually identifies the Pedernales Valley which has been the recognized name for this area since the time of the Spanish explorers.
- (2) The name Fredericksburg has never been used to identify the area outside the limits of this City. The name Fredericksburg was used by the early settlers for their settlement, and not for the area.
- (3) The title Fredericksburg would be confusing since it identifies only the urban area and the center of commerce for Gillespie County and the Pedernales Valley.
- (4) The term "Hill Country" is an informal one for the Edwards Plateau or the Balcones Escarpment. Only these two names are used on geographical maps to identify this large area.

It is our belief that this proposed viticultural area would be best identified as the Pedernales Valley Viticultural Area.

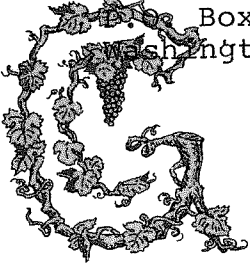
Yours very truly,

OBERHELLMANN VINEYARDS


Robert P. Oberhelman

April 1, 1988

Chief, Wine & Beer Division
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, & Firearms
P.O. Box 385
Washington, D.C. 20044-385



RE: 27 CFR Part 9 (Notice 655)
Proposed Establishment of 'Fredericksburg
in the Texas Hill Country' Viticultural Area.

GRAPE CREEK VINEYARD
P.O. Box 102
Stonewall, Texas 78671
(512) 644-2710

We oppose using the "Fredericksburg in the Texas Hill Country"
for the following reasons:

- (1) The area boundaries proposed actually identifies the Pedernales Valley which has been recognized for this area since the time of the Spanish explorers.
- (2) The name Fredericksburg is associated with the town only and does not extend to the adjacent areas.
- (3) Even US TEXANS cannot agree upon the boundaries of " Hill Country"

It is our belief that this proposed viticultural area would be best identified as the "PEDERNALES VALLEY BITICULTURAL AREA."

Yours very truly,

GRAPE CREEK VINEYARD


Ned E. Simes