Leah Clark

Trade Specialist

Market Development Division

Idaho Department of Agriculture

2270 Old Penitentiary Road

Boise, ID 83701

Dear Ms. Clark,

Art McIntosh

Lindsay Creek Vineyards

3107 Powers Ave.

Lewiston, ID 83501

I am writing of behalf of the winery I own in the Lewiston area called Lindsay Creek Vineyards. We are a destination winery that grows grapes and produces wine as a part of the Lewis-Clark Valley AVA, Idaho`s third AVA.

Because of the newness of the new AVA and our winery, we are unable to produce wine using 95% Idaho grapes. We don't have enough acres of vineyards planted at this time. We would like to carry the Idaho Preferred logo on our wines that are produced in our Lewiston winery, but feel that the stipulation to have 95% of our grapes coming from Idaho is unrealistic, at least at this time as we see the wine industry grow in Northern Idaho. We are making wines that are winning major awards at some of the most prestigious wine competitions in the United States. These wines contain mostly Idaho grapes, but the 95% threshold is unrealistic for our winery.

As a member of Idaho Preferred with my organic growing and milling operation, Harvest Ridge Organics, I am very aware of the value of the Idaho Preferred Label. We proudly display that label on every package of our Harvest Ridge Organics products made from wheat, barley, oats and other products that we grow and mill in the Lewiston area.

It is not my intension to devalue the Idaho Preferred brand by changing the grape percentage number, and don't believe changing this percentage would harm it.

I think 75% is a realistic and fair number, because the TTB uses 75% as their threshold for labeling and marketing a wine as a single variety.

With this I hope you will consider making this change to the Idaho Preferred policy. I would love to carry the Idaho Preferred seal on our wines.

Sincerely,

Art McIntosh Owner-Winemaker