September 21, 2007

Re: Recycling Law

Dear Permittee:

Find enclosed the Recycling Program developed by the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission pursuant to NCGS 18B-1006.1. The program explains what a permittee has to do to be in compliance with the new recycling law when it becomes effective January 1, 2008.

The Recycling Program is designed to allow permittees and businesses the flexibility to develop recycling programs that not only comply with the law but also fit individual business needs.

For information on recycling services available in your area, go to the ABC Commission’s web site at http://www.ncabc.com, then click on “What’s new”, then click on “Mandatory container recycling effective Jan. 2008, then “Click here for detailed guidelines”. You can also find recycling information on the web site for the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources at http://www.p2pays.org/BannedMaterials/ABCcontainer/. If you have specific questions regarding recycling resources, you may contact NC DENR at 919-715-6500.

Sincerely,
LoRita K. Pinnix
Assistant Counsel
MODEL RECYCLING PROGRAM

Effective January 1, 2008, all holders of on premises malt beverage, on premises unfortified wine, on premises fortified wine and mixed beverages permits must separate, store, and provide for the collection for recycling of all recyclable beverage containers of all beverages sold for consumption on the premises. Each permit holder must arrange for collection of recyclable containers with a local government recycling program, a solid waste hauler or a recycling services company or collect recyclable material and drop off at a location that accepts the material for recycling (a local government drop off site or a private recycling facility).

Recyclable beverage containers include but are not limited to the following, whether or not the beverage in the container was alcoholic:
- Glass bottles and containers
- Plastic bottles and beverage containers
- Aluminum cans

Recyclable beverage containers include those sold for individual consumption, i.e., beer bottles and bottled water, and beverages in larger containers that individual drinks are poured from, i.e. wine bottles and spirituous liquor bottles.

Starting a Recycling Program

**Step 1:** Find a Recycling Service – The permit holders should contact local government, recycling companies and/or haulers of recyclable material and arrange for collection and recycling of the required materials.

**Step 2:** Make Arrangements for Handling Materials – Once a permit holder determines who will provide pick up and recycling services, the business must provide for external storage (such as, bins, carts, dumpsters) so that the materials can be picked up by the service provider or hauled to a recycling center. Internal storage (such as bins, carts, cans) is to be used inside the business to collect the materials.

Develop and start a recycling program now. On January 1, 2008, your program must be in place and functioning in order to be in compliance with the law.

Failure to have a recycling program in place by January 1, 2008 could result in administrative fines and suspension of all ABC permits.

For more information on how to start your recycling program, go to ncabc.com and click on Mandatory container recycling effective Jan. 2008.
**Q:** Why do I have to recycle?

**A:** North Carolina General Statute 18B-1006.1 was passed by the General Assembly in 2005 and requires all businesses that hold on premises malt beverage permits, on premises unfortified wine permits, on premises fortified wine permits or mixed beverage permits to separate, store and provide for the collection of all recyclable beverage containers for all beverages sold for consumption on the premises. If a patron is consuming a beverage in a recyclable container on the property of the business, that container must be collected and recycled.

**Q:** What has to be recycled?

**A:** All beverage containers made out of material that can be recycled, such as glass bottles and containers, plastic bottles and containers and aluminum cans. This includes all containers even if the container did not originally hold an alcoholic beverage (plastic water bottles and soda cans). Containers sold for individual consumption (beer bottles) and larger containers that individual drinks are poured from (wine bottles and spirituous liquor bottles) must be collected and recycled.

**Q:** What should I do at my business because of this law?

**A:** You should find a recycling service that will pick up and take the required materials to be recycled. Then you should make arrangements for handling the recyclable materials at your business. Indoor and outdoor containers (bins, carts, cans and dumpsters) will be necessary so that materials can be separated and picked up by your recycling service.

**Q:** How do I find out about recycling services?

**A:** Contact your current trash pickup/service provider to see if recycling services are available through it or you can contact a private company and arrange for pickup. You can get information about local services by going to the ABC Commission website at [www.ncabc.com](http://www.ncabc.com) under “What’s new”, click on “Mandatory container recycling effective Jan. 2008” then “Click here for detailed guidelines”.

**Q:** When do I have to start recycling?

**A:** The effective date of the law is January 1, 2008. On that date all required businesses must have a suitable recycling program in place that separates recyclable material from other material and provides for pick-up of this material to be recycled. Beginning October 1, 2007, all businesses that apply for on premises malt beverage permits, on premises unfortified wine permits, on premises fortified wine permits and/or mixed beverage permits must submit a recycling program in order to receive ABC permits.

**Q:** There are no or limited recycling services in my area, what do I do?

**A:** A one year exemption can be granted by the ABC Commission if recycling services are not available in your area. An Exemption Request Form can be obtained from the Commission by calling 919-779-0700.