

DIAGEO

GLOBAL SUPPLY

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May 9, 2012

**BY FEDERAL EXPRESS and
ELECTRONIC MAIL
(Lodin.Marianne@epa.gov)**

Marianne O. Lodin
Associate Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: Black Leaf Chemical Superfund Site
General Notice Letter Dated May 3, 2012

Dear Ms. Lodin:

Diageo North America, Inc. ("Diageo") has received U.S. EPA's General Notice Letter dated May 3, 2012 relating to the Black Leaf Chemical Superfund Site (the "Site") in Louisville, Kentucky. As Diageo explained in its response to U.S. EPA's request for information concerning the Site, Diageo conducted an extensive investigation which included the review of hundreds of boxes of documents and attempts to identify and interview knowledgeable current and former employees. Based on this investigation, Diageo does not believe the operations of Schenley Distillers, Inc. ("Schenley") contributed to the contamination that has been discovered at the Site. Diageo does not believe that Schenley's cooperage operations used or generated any of the hazardous substances that have been identified at the Site, and Diageo has no connection to the Site except through Schenley.

Because Diageo believes it has no liability for the contamination at the Site, it respectfully declines to participate in the ongoing negotiations with the parties actually liable for that contamination. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Gene Ruminski
Environmental Risk Manager



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