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March 9, 1998

Secretary of Labor
Top Hat Plan Exemption
Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration
Room N-5644
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

Re: National Soft Drink Association Deferred Compensation Agreement and National Soft Drink Association Deferred Compensation Plan

Dear Secretary:

Pursuant to Section 2520.104-23 of the Department of Labor's Regulations, this letter will serve as notice that, with respect to the National Soft Drink Association Deferred Compensation Agreement and the National Soft Drink Association Deferred Compensation Plan (respectively, the "Agreement" and the "Plan"), the undersigned intends to utilize the alternative form of compliance with the reporting and disclosure requirements of Part 1 of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), which alternative form of compliance is provided in the aforesaid Regulations Section.

Pursuant to Regulations Section 2520.104-23(b), the following information is provided:

1. Name and Address of Employer- National Soft Drink Association
1101 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

2. Employer's Employer Identification Number- 53-0025510

3. The Employer hereby declares that it maintains the Agreement and the Plan primarily for the purpose of providing deferred compensation for a select group of management or highly compensated employees.

4. The Employer hereby states that it maintains the Agreement for one employee. The Plan initially is expected to cover nine (9) employees. The Employer maintains no other plan providing deferred compensation primarily for the benefit of management or highly compensated employees.

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Pursuant to Regulations Section 2520.104-23(b)(2), the Employer will provide Agreement and Plan documents, if any, to the Secretary of Labor upon request as required by Section 104(a)(1) of ERISA.

Very truly yours,

NATIONAL SOFT DRINK ASSOCIATION

By: 

Print Name: Mark N. Hammond

Print Title: Plan Administrator



1101 Sixteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036



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