



2108 W. Laburnum Ave., Suite 230, Richmond, VA 23227

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March 20, 2020

Mr. Travis Hill  
Virginia ABC

RE: Off-Premise "Novel or Unusual Container" Definition – Product Approval for Breweries

Dear Travis:

Thank you for the responsiveness to and support of Virginia's independent craft breweries. We sincerely appreciate the quick decisions this week on curbside pick-up and delivery permits. As the COVID-19 crisis develops, we look forward to regular communication and collaboration.

One of the issues we raised earlier in the week was expanding the approval of closed containers that could be used for brewery off-premise sales. This is largely driven by the unprecedented industry initiative to stop refilling growlers. As such, we are requesting approval of the following "Novel or Unusual Containers" as allowed for under [3VAC5-40-30.C](#) to be approved for off-premise sales, without requiring sealable plastic rings on the closures, at breweries until 1/1/21:

1. PET Plastic Growler Bottles (up to and including 64 oz sizes). Example - <https://www.thecarycompany.com/containers/plastic/bottles/growlers>
2. PET Plastic Bottles (up to and including 64 oz sizes). Example - <https://www.containerandpackaging.com/catalog/plastic-containers/plastic-bottles>
3. HDPE Plastic Pub Keg with PET Plastic Bottle & Valve (up to 5 gallon size). [https://www.berlinpackaging.com/5-gal-blue-hdpe-plastic-pub-keg-with-pet-plastic-bottle-valve-bp283485/?promo=shopping&gclid=Cj0KCQjw09HzBRDrARIsAG60GP\\_U-fE7l2vF1TFAJTfrot\\_5TMSf3n\\_2mO\\_pguWALrGUepmJfXm8pj4aAnPeEALw\\_wcB](https://www.berlinpackaging.com/5-gal-blue-hdpe-plastic-pub-keg-with-pet-plastic-bottle-valve-bp283485/?promo=shopping&gclid=Cj0KCQjw09HzBRDrARIsAG60GP_U-fE7l2vF1TFAJTfrot_5TMSf3n_2mO_pguWALrGUepmJfXm8pj4aAnPeEALw_wcB)
4. Swing Top Bottles (up to 750mL sizes). <https://www.morebeer.com/products/swing-top-bottles-750ml-amber-case-12.html>
5. Flip Top Beer Bottles (up to 32 oz.). <https://www.morebeer.com/products/ez-cap-flip-top-beer-bottles-16-oz-amber-case-12.html> and <https://www.morebeer.com/products/beer-bottles-flip-top-750-ml-amber-case-12.html>.

Thank you for considering these requests.

Sincerely,

*Brett*

Brett A. Vassey, President & CEO