



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration  
Rockville MD 20857

**FILE COPY**

April 12, 2013

D. Douglas Blanke, JD  
Director, Tobacco Control Legal Consortium  
William Mitchell College of Law  
875 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55105

Dear Mr. Blanke:

Your petition to the Food and Drug Administration on behalf of African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council; American Academy of Pediatrics; American Association for Cancer Research; American Cancer Society- Cancer Action Network; American Heart Association; American Legacy Foundation; American Lung Association; American Public Health Association; Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights; Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL); Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence; Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids; Corporate Accountability International; NAATPN, Inc.; National Association of County and City Health Officials; National Latino Alliance for Health Equity; Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco; Summit Health Institute for Research and Education, Inc.; Valerie B. Yerger, N.D. urge the FDA to take immediate action to prohibit menthol as a characterizing flavoring in cigarettes and cigarette smoke, was received by this office on 04/12/2013. It was assigned docket number FDA-2013-P-0435/CP1, and it was filed on 04/12/2013. Please refer to this docket number in future correspondence on this subject with the Agency.

Please note that the acceptance of the petition for filing is a procedural matter in that it in no way reflects an agency decision on the substantive merits of the petition.

Sincerely,

Gloria Ortega  
Administrative Proceedings Officer  
Division of Dockets Management  
FDA/Office of the Executive Secretariat (OES)