

Melanie S. Wong
1592 Union Street, Suite 163
San Francisco, California 94123

HAND-DELIVERED

May 4, 2010

The Honorable Peter Rothen
German Consulate General San Francisco
1960 Jackson Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

Dear Mr. Rothen:

On behalf of 116 American petitioners, we present to you our petition opposing the High Mosel Bridge (HMÜ = B 50 neu: Autobahndreieck Wittlich bis Longkamp). We ask that you convey this petition to Bundeskanzlerin Angela Merkel, Bundestag, Bundesrat, and other German authorities.

“We, the undersigned, request that the German government cease construction of the High Mosel Bridge. The 40-year-old plan is obsolete. Building the bridge as currently designed would cause irreparable damage to the physical environment and wine culture of the Mittelmosel.

The United States is the largest and most profitable export market for German wine. California consumers lead the Riesling Renaissance, doubling German wine sales in the U. S. since 2000. As German wine lovers, we contribute to Germany’s positive balance of trade and are significant stakeholders in this debate. We regard the Mittelmosel as sacred ground and unite with Mosel wine producers and the German people in our opposition to this harmful project.”

The unparalleled wines from the Mosel’s finest vineyards have been your country’s best ambassadors for centuries. Through these vinous gifts, we in California have enjoyed a deep connection to Germany and German culture. Accordingly, we support the people of the Mosel Valley and add our voices to protest the tragedy created by the proposed bridge.

Thank you for your attention. Should you have any questions or concerns about this petition, please contact me by phone, 415.309.7336, or email, MsWine@onebox.com.

Sincerely,

Melanie S. Wong

Copy to:
Sarah Washington, www.b50neu.de
Alexia Putze, VDP. Die Prädikatsweingüter
Hendrik Thoma, www.TVino.de
Cyrus Farivar, Deutsche Welle