

**11 December, 2012**

## **Winemakers welcome tax changes**

Winemakers have welcomed new laws that will ensure the integrity of the Wine Equalisation Tax Rebate.

The changes, which take effect immediately, will ensure that a wine producer cannot claim a rebate for wine used in manufacture unless the previous producer or supplier provides a notice that a previous producer is not entitled to the rebate on that wine.

“This is a really significant move because it takes away the opportunity that currently exists for multiple rebates to be claimed on the same quantity of wine,” said WFA’s Chief Executive, Paul Evans.

“This clearly was never intended when the rebate was introduced. These amendments will ensure the system works as intended.

“WFA has worked closely with the Australian Taxation Office to close these and other loopholes that we believe undermine the integrity of the WET Rebate system and we are pleased that the Government responded quickly.”

The rebate scheme entitles a wine producer to a rebate on their WET payments up to a maximum of \$500,000 per financial year.

The amendments also cover New Zealand wine, as New Zealand producers qualify for the rebate under reciprocal trade arrangements.

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