UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS:	Orson Swindle Thomas B. Lear	Thomas B. Leary Pamela Jones Harbour	
In the Matter of)	
Valero L.P.,)	
	artnership,	ý	
Valero Energy Corporation,)	
a corporat	ion,)	
<u>.</u>)	
and)	Docket No. C-4141
Kaneb Services L	LC,)	
a limited li	iability company,)	
Kaneb Pipe Line Partners, L.P.,)	
a limited p	artnership)	
)	
)	

COMPLAINT

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act and the Clayton Act, and by virtue of the authority vested in it by said Acts, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission"), having reason to believe that Respondents Valero L.P. and Valero Energy Corporation and Respondents Kaneb Services LLC and Kaneb Pipe Line Partners, L.P. (together "Kaneb") have entered into agreements and plans of merger whereby Valero L.P. proposes to acquire all of the outstanding common stock of Kaneb, that such agreement and plan of merger violates Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, and Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as a

II. <u>THE MERGERS</u>

14. Pursuant to (1) the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of October 31, 2004, by and among, Valero L.P.; Riverwalk Logistics, L.P.; Valero GP LLC; VLI Sub A LLC; and Kaneb Services LLC; and (2) the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of October 31, 2004, by and among Valero L.P.; Riverwalk Logistics, L.P.; Valero GP LLC; VLI Sub B LLC; Kaneb Pipe Line Partners, L.P.; and Kaneb Pipe Line Company LLC, Valero L.P. intends to acquire all of the equity interests of Kaneb Services LLC and Kaneb Pipe Line Company, L.P. in exchange for cash, Valero L.P partnership units, or a combination of cash and Valero L.P. partnership units. The value of the transaction at the time of the agreements was approximately \$2.8 billion. The surviving entity is to be called Valero L.P.

III. TRADE AND COMMERCE

Relevant Product Markets

15.

- 21. Motor gasoline is produced in various grades and types, including conventional unleaded gasoline, reformulated gasoline, CARB gasoline, and others. Reformulated gasoline is gasoline formulated for use in motor vehicles, the composition and properties of which meet the requirements of the reformulated gasoline regulations promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Section 211K of the Clean Air Act. Reformulated gasoline is gasoline is gasoline is gasoline is gasoline meeting the specifications of the California Air Resources Board, and which also meet or exceed U.S. Environmental Protection Agency gasoline specifications for the areas in which they are used. There is no substitute for gasoline as a fuel for automobiles and other vehicles that are designed to use gasoline.
- 22. Diesel fuel is a petroleum distillate with the referenced sulfur specification to meet onroad, off-road, or home heating uses. There is no substitute for the appropriate diesel fuel as a fuel for trucks, railroad engines, farm equipment, other vehicles and equipment designed to burn diesel fuel. Jet fuel is a kerosene product meeting the specifications for use as turbojet and turboprop engines. Military jet fuel meets the specifications for kerosene products designated for military use (JP-8 and JP-5).
- 23. Blend components are petroleum products and other chemicals blended with unfinished gasoline to produce finished gasoline. Examples of common blend components include CARBOB, reformate, alkylate, MTBE, and ethanol. Ethanol is an anhydrous denatured aliphatic alcohol. The use of ethanol as a gasoline blending component and oxygenate has become increasingly prevalent in some parts of the country, especially as some states, (*e.g.*, California, New York) have recently prohibited the use of oxygenates such as MTBE.
- 24. Crude oil is the primary feedstock distilled and further refined to produce finished fuel products and other refined products. Intermediate feedstocks are semi-refined petroleum products used as feedstocks to blend into finished petroleum products.

Relevant Geographic Markets

25. Relevant sections of the country in which to analyze the proposed transaction are the

pipeline transportation and terminaling services for, and among bulk suppliers of, light petroleum products, as alleged below; and

c. Northern California, consisting of California counties north of, but not including, San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernardino counties, and narrower markets contained therein, where the mergers would reduce competition in terminaling services for crude oil, light petroleum products, blend components, and intermediate refinery feedstocks, and among bulk suppliers of light petroleum products and blend components (including ethanol), as alleged below.

Market Structure

Greater Philadelphia Area

- 26. Refineries produce light petroleum products and deliver them either into storage tanks or terminals on the refinery premises or into pipelines or deepwater marine vessels, that, in turn, deliver the fuel products into terminals located near the final consumer.
- 27. Refineries, deepwater-capable terminals, and pipeline terminals are direct horizontal competitors from which firms produce or to which firms deliver bulk supplies of light petroleum products. In the Greater Philadelphia Area, local refiners and bulk suppliers sell to independent discount gasoline retailers, oil companies, and wholesalers of light petroleum products.
- 28. Bulk suppliers of light petroleum products require terminals that can receive, store, and transfer the products to marine vessel, pipeline or truck. There is no substitute for light petroleum products terminals for bulk suppliers.
- 29. Firms that purchase truck-load quantities of light petroleum products to supply their retail or commercial pumps have no effective alternative to using local light petroleum product terminals.
- 30. Valero and Kaneb are direct horizontal competitors in the provision of terminaling services for bulk suppliers in the Greater Philadelphia Area.
- 31. Kaneb is an independent commercial terminal operator. Kaneb does not own or sell any light petroleum products to retail or commercial customers. Thus, in Philadelphia, Kaneb derives its revenue solely from the provision of terminaling services, including receipt and throughput of bulk supplies.
- 32. Bulk suppliers may purchase light petroleum products from an integrated refiner and terminal operator in the Greater Philadelphia Area ("local suppliers"). The local suppliers

in the Philadelphia area include Valero, ConocoPhillips, Premcor, Sunoco, ExxonMobil, and Hess.

- 33. A reasonable substitute for bulk suppliers to purchasing light petroleum products made by local refineries in the Greater Philadelphia Area for a significant portion of the time is the purchase of wholesale light petroleum products produced outside the area and physically delivered by a pipeline or marine vessel. The primary sources of these imports are refiners located in the U.S. Gulf Coast region ("Gulf Coast") and outside the United States.
- 34. Valero L.P. owns a light petroleum products terminal in Paulsboro, New Jersey, from which light petroleum products are delivered by truck into, among other places, the Greater Philadelphia Area. The Valero L.P. terminal is supplied by Valero Energy's Paulsboro refinery.
- 35. Kaneb owns three terminals in the greater Philadelphia area: two in Philadelphia and one in Paulsboro, New Jersey. Kaneb's "north" Philadelphia terminal is connected to the Colonial Pipeline and is capable of receiving bulk shipments of light petroleum products produced in the Gulf Coast. The terminal also has a dock that permits it to receive bulk marine shipments by barge. Kaneb's "south" Philadelphia terminal is connected to the Colonial Pipeline but does not currently have access to marine shipments. Kaneb's Paulsboro terminal can receive bulk shipments both from the Colonial Pipeline and from deepwater tankers.
- 36. On April 25, 2005, Valero Energy announced its intent to acquire Premcor Inc. in a transaction valued at approximately \$8 billion. The transaction includes Premcor's Delaware City, Delaware, refinery. For the purposes of analyzing the proposed Valero/Kaneb transaction, the Commission assumes a combined Valero, Kaneb, and Premcor.
- 37. Post-merger, the combined Valero, Kaneb, and Premcor will control a significant share of bulk supply and terminaling services for light petroleum products in the greater Philadelphia area. The proposed transaction would significantly increase market concentration, and post-merger the market would be highly concentrated. Without Premcor, post-merger, the combined Valero and Kaneb would still control a significant share of bulk supply and terminaling services for light petroleum products in the Greater Philadelphia area.
- 38. As an independent terminal operator, Kaneb today provides Philadelphia area customers access to bulk supply originating outside the area. Without this competitive constraint, Philadelphia prices, generally limited by either Gulf Coast prices plus pipeline tariff or New York Harbor prices adjusted by the water-borne transportation costs, could rise.

- 39. Kaneb's terminals are the only Philadelphia area terminals accessible to independent delivery, storage, and throughput of bulk imports of light petroleum products delivered by marine vessel (deepwater and barge) and Colonial Pipeline into the Greater Philadelphia area. Loss of access would reduce the total supply to the Greater Philadelphia area and increase wholesale prices for light petroleum products.
- 40. After the mergers, the combined firm could effectively coordinate with the other providers in the Greater Philadelphia area to raise prices in bulk supply of and terminaling services for light petroleum products in the greater Philadelphia area.

Colorado Front Range

Cheyenne, Wyoming; a Sinclair refinery in Casper, Wyoming; and the Seminoe Pipeline, from which it receives light petroleum products from the ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, and CHS refineries in Billings, Montana.

- 47. Post-merger, the combined Valero and Kaneb will control a significant share of bulk supply, and of terminaling services for bulk suppliers, of light petroleum products in the Colorado Front Range. The proposed transaction would significantly increase market concentration, and post-merger the market would be highly concentrated. The proposed transaction would result in Valero having a monopoly in the Colorado Springs area.
- 48. After the mergers, the combined firm could effectively coordinate with others to raise prices in the markets for bulk supply of, and terminaling services for, light petroleum products in the Colorado Front Range, or unilaterally in parts contained therein.
- 49. Kaneb's West Pipeline, along with Magellan's Chase Pipeline, provides the only independent access to pipeline deliveries of light petroleum products from refineries outside of the Colorado Front Range. Loss of independent access would reduce the number of competitors capable of supplying the Colorado Front Range, reduce the amount of supply in the market and increase wholesale prices for light petroleum products.

Northern California

- 50. Valero and Kaneb are direct horizontal competitors in the provision of terminaling services for bulk suppliers of refining components, most blending components, and light petroleum products in Northern California. The other participants are Tesoro, ConocoPhillips, Shell, and Chevron. BP and IMTT also participate in this market. However, these terminals have constrained access to the Kinder Morgan pipeline system.
- 51. Kaneb is an independent commercial terminal operator. Kaneb does not own or sell any light petroleum products to wholesale or commercial customers. Thus, Kaneb derives its revenue solely from the provision of terminaling services, including receipt of bulk supplies.
- 52. Kinder Morgan owns the only common carrier pipeline that serves the interior of Northern California. This pipeline provides the only economic means of distributing light petroleum products to Northern California terminals outside of the East Bay.
- 53. Bulk supply of light petroleum products in Northern California comes from two sources: (1) domestic production by integrated refiner/terminal operators in Northern California and (2) imports via marine vessel by petroleum product traders, largely on behalf of, or for the integrated refiner/marketers in California.

- 54. Kaneb owns three terminals that participate in this market: Martinez, Richmond, and Selby. All three of the terminals are both accessible to the Kinder Morgan pipeline system and capable of receiving deepwater marine vessels.
- 55. Valero owns a refinery at Benicia and associated storage tanks. The refinery and associated tanks are used by Valero for its own terminaling and bulk supply needs. Valero L

pipeline. Once bulk ethanol shipments have been placed in storage, tank trucks transport ethanol to outlying terminals, where it can be placed in smaller storage tanks pending final blending with pre-oxygenated gasoline ("CARBOB") at the truck rack.

- 62. Kaneb's Richmond, Selby, and Stockton terminals are the only terminals in Northern California not associated with refineries capable of receiving and distributing bulk volumes of ethanol. Northern California terminals could not be economically supplied with ethanol trucked from Southern California or other locations.
- 63. Because satellite terminals must receive ethanol supplies by truck, trucking economics strongly influence which bulk ethanol terminal will supply ethanol to finished gasoline terminals.
- 64. Valero Energy is a significant user and supplier of ethanol for its own finished gasoline sales.
- 65. After the proposed transaction, Valero could increase prices for or deny access to bulk ethanol terminaling services, causing increased prices for, or reduced supply of, ethanol or finished CARB gasoline.

Entry

66. Entry into the relevant markets into relevant sections of the country would be difficult and would not be likely, timely, or sufficient to prevent the anticompetitive effects that are likely to result from the proposed transaction.

IV. VIOLATIONS CHARGED

First Violation Charged

- 67. Valero L.P. and Kaneb are competitors in the market for terminaling services for bulk suppliers of light petroleum products in the Greater Philadelphia Area.
- 68. The effect of the proposed transaction, if consummated, may be substantially to lessen competition in the provision of terminaling services for light petroleum products and the bulk supply of light petroleum products in the Greater Philadelphia Area, in violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, in the following ways, among others:
 - a. by eliminating direct competition between Valero and Kaneb in the provision of terminaling services for bulk suppliers of light petroleum products;

- b. by increasing the likelihood of, or facilitating, collusion or coordinated interaction between the combination of Valero and Kaneb and their competitors in the provision of terminaling services for bulk suppliers; and
- c. by increasing the likelihood of, or facilitating, collusion or coordinated interaction between Valero and the other bulk suppliers of light petroleum products;

each of which increases the likelihood that the wholesale price of light petroleum products will increase in the relevant section of the country.

Second Violation Charged

- 69. Valero and Kaneb are competitors in pipeline transportation and terminaling services for bulk suppliers of light petroleum products in the Colorado Front Range.
- 70. The effect of the proposed transaction, if consummated, may be substantially to lessen competition in the provision of terminaling services for light petroleum products and the bulk supply of light petroleum products to the Colorado Front Range, and in narrower markets contained therein, in violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, in the following ways, among others:
 - a. by eliminating direct competition between Valero and Kaneb in the provision of pipeline transportation and terminaling services for bulk suppliers of light petroleum products;
 - b. by increasing the likelihood of, or facilitating, collusion or coordinated interaction between the combination of Valero and Kaneb and their competitors in the provision of pipeline transportation and terminaling services for bulk suppliers;
 - c. by increasing the likelihood that the combination of Valero and Kaneb will unilaterally exercise market power in the provision of pipeline transportation and terminaling services for bulk suppliers of light petroleum products in the Colorado Springs area; and
 - d. by increasing the likelihood of, or facilitating, collusion or coordinated interaction between Valero and the other bulk suppliers of light petroleum products;

each of which increases the likelihood that wholesale prices of light petroleum products will increase in the relevant sections of the country.

Third Violation Charged

- 71. Valero and Kaneb are competitors in terminaling services for bulk suppliers of refining components, blending components, and light petroleum products in Northern California.
- 72. The effect of the proposed transaction, if consummated, may be substantially to lessen competition in the provision of terminaling services for crude oil, light petroleum products, blend components, and intermediate refinery feedstocks, and the bulk supply of light petroleum products and blend components (including ethanol) in Northern California, in violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, in the following ways, among others:
 - a. by eliminating direct competition between Valero and Kaneb in the provision of terminaling services for bulk suppliers of crude oil, refining components, light petroleum products, blend components, and intermediate refinery feedstocks,
 - b. by increasing the likelihood of, or facilitating, collusion or coordinated interaction between the combination of Valero and Kaneb and their competitors in the provision of terminaling services for bulk suppliers; and
 - c. by increasing the likelihood of, or facilitating, collusion or coordinated interaction between Valero and the other bulk suppliers of light petroleum products;

each of which increases the likelihood that wholesale prices of light petroleum products will increase in the relevant section of the country.

Fourth Violation Charged

- 73. Kaneb provides services in the upstream market for terminaling for bulk ethanol in Northern California through its terminals at Selby and Stockton. No other independent terminals in Northern California can economically receive and distribute bulk supplies of ethanol.
- 74. Valero Energy is a significant user of ethanol for the oxygenation of gasoline and a significant seller in the downstream market for CARB gasoline in Northern California.
- 75. Valero could use information on the use of Kaneb's ethanol terminaling facilities to facilitate collusion in the bulk supply of CARB gasoline in Northern California.
- 76. The effect of the proposed transaction, if consummated, may be substantially to lessen competition in bulk supply of CARB gasoline in Northern California, in violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 18, and Section 5 of the Federal

Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, by increasing the likelihood of collusion, which would increase prices of CARB gasoline in the relevant section of the country.

Statutes Violated

The proposed transaction between Valero L.P. and Kaneb violates Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, and would, if consummated, violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45.

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Federal Trade Commission on this fourteenth day of June, 2005, issues its complaint against said Respondents.

By the Commission, Chairman Majoras recused.

SEAL:

Donald S. Clark Secretary