
¹ Commissioners Harbour, Leibowitz, and Rosch support the issuance of the Complaint and proposed consent agreement and join in this statement.

² Section 5 of the FTC Act prohibits “unfair methods of competition in or affecting commerce, and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce.” 15 USC § 45(a)(1).

³ One dissent recites a different set of facts than those alleged in the Complaint. We do not agree with that version of the facts. Rather, we believe that staff’s investigation, as described in the Analysis to Aid Public Comment, accurately depicts the facts in this case.

⁴ See generally Fed. Trade Comm’n, *To Promote Innovation: The Proper Balance of Competition and Patent Law and Policy* ch. 2 at 31, n. 220; ch. 3 at 38-41, available at <http://www.ftc.gov/os/2003/10/innovationrpt.pdf> (2003) (conduct by “non-producing entities” – sometimes referred to as ‘patent trolls’ – may harm consumers when such firms force manufacturers to agree to licenses after the manufacturers have sunk substantial investments into technologies).

⁵ See, e.g., *E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. v. FTC*, 729 F.2d 128 (2d Cir. 1984) (“*Ethyl*”); *Official Airline Guides v. FTC*, 630 F.2d 920 (2d Cir. 1980). The conduct falls squarely within the parameters of cases like *Ethyl*. One dissent quotes a passage from the *Ethyl* decision; even that excerpt

Commission is replete with references to the types of conduct that Congress intended the Commission to challenge. *See, e.g.*, 51 Cong. Rec. 12,153 (1914) (statement of Sen. Robinson) (“unjust, inequitable or dishonest competition”), 51 Cong. Rec. 12,154 (1914) (statement of Sen. Newlands) (conduct that is “contrary to good morals”). The Supreme Court apparently agrees as it has found that the standard for “unfairness” under the FTC Act is “by necessity, an elusive one, encompassing not only practices that violate the Sherman Act and the other antitrust laws, but also practices that the Commission determines are against public policy for other reasons.” *F.T.C. v. Ind. Fed’n of Dentists*, 476 U.S. 477, 454 (1986); *see also F.T.C. v. Sperry & Hutchinson Co.*, 405 U.S. 233, 242 (1972) (FTC has authority to constrain, among other things “deception, bad faith, fraud or oppression”).

We also have no doubt that the type of behavior engaged in by N-Data harms consumers. The process of establishing a standard displaces competition; therefore, bad faith or deceptive behavior that undermines the process may also undermine competition in an entire industry, raise prices to consumers, and reduce choices.⁶ We have previously

makes clear that a Section 5 violation can be found when there are “some indicia of oppressiveness” such as “coercive...conduct.” For the reasons stated in the Analysis to Aid Public Comment, we find reason to believe that Respondent engaged in conduct that was both oppressive and coercive when it engaged in efforts to exploit licensees that were locked into a technology by the adoption of a standard. We believe the Analysis to Aid Public comment adequately describes the limiting principles applicable here. *See generally* Statement of Commissioner J. Thomas Rosch, *Perspectives on Three Recent Votes: the Closing of the Adelpia Communications Investigation, the Issuance of the Valassis Complaint & the Weyerhaeuser Amicus Brief*, before the National Economic Research Associates 2006 Antitrust & Trade Regulation Seminar, Santa Fe, New Mexico (July 6, 2006) at 5-12, *available at* <http://www.ftc.gov/speeches/rosch/Rosch-NERA-Speech-July6-2006.pdf>; Concurring Opinion of Commissioner Jon Leibowitz, *In re Rambus, Inc.*, Docket No. 9302, *available at* <http://www.ftc.gov/os/adjpro/d9302/060802rambusc>

