The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than April 23, 1999.

**A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis** (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2034:

*1. NBC Capital Corporation*, Starkville, Mississippi; to acquire FFBS Bancorp, Inc., Columbus, Mississippi, and First Federal Bank of Savings, Columbus, Mississippi, and thereby engage in the operation of a savings association, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(4)(ii) of Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, March 24, 1999.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Associate Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 99–7742 Filed 3–29–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–F

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Sunshine Meeting Notice

**TIME AND DATE:** 10 a.m., Monday, April 5, 1999.

**PLACE:** Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, 20th and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20551.

**STATUS:** Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Lynn S. Fox, Assistant to the Board, (202) 452–3204.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** You may call (202) 452–3206 beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before the meeting for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting; or you may contact the Board's Web site at http://www.federalreserve.gov for an electronic announcement that not only lists applications, but also indicates procedural and other information about the meeting.

Dated: March 26, 1999.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Associate Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 99–7921 Filed 3–26–99; 3:59 pm]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–P

## FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

**[File No. 9910089]**

### Zeneca Group PLC.; Analysis to Aid Public Comment

**AGENCY:** Federal Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed consent agreement.

**SUMMARY:** The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint that accompanies the consent agreement and the terms of the consent order—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before June 1, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be directed to: FTC/Office of the Secretary, Room 159, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven Berstein or David Inglefield, FTC/S–2308, 601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, (202) 326–2423 or (202) 326–2637.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46, and § 2.34 of the Commission's rules of practice, 16 CFR 2.34, notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for March 25, 1999), on the World Wide Web, at ''http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions97.htm.'' A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room H–130, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326–3627.

Public comment is invited. Comments should be directed to: FTC/Office of the Secretary, Room 159, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580 Two paper copies of each comment should be filed, and should be accompanied, if possible, by a 3½ inch diskette containing an electronic copy of the comment. Such comments or views will be considered by the Commission and will be available for inspection and copying at its principal office in accordance with § 4.9(b)(6)(ii) of the Commission's rules of practice (16 CFR 4.9(b)(6)(ii).

### Analysis of Proposed Consent Order To Aid Public Comment

The Federal Trade Commission (''Commission'') has accepted, subject to final approval, an agreement containing a proposed Consent Order from Respondent Zeneca Group PLC (''Zeneca''), which is designed to remedy the anticompetitive effects resulting from the merger of Zeneca and Astra AB (''Astra''). Under the terms of the agreement, Respondent will be required, among other things, to transfer and surrender all of Zeneca's rights and assets relating to levobupivacaine, a long-acting local anesthetic, to Chiroscience Group plc (''Chiroscience''), the developer of levobupivacaine.

The proposed Consent Order has been placed on the public record for sixty (60) days for reception of comments by interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After sixty (60) days, the Commission will again review the proposed Consent Order and the comments received, and will decide whether it should withdraw from the proposed Consent Order or make final the proposed Order.

Pursuant to a December 9, 1998, Merger Agreement and Plan of Merger, Zeneca agreed to acquire 100 percent of all issued shares of Astra stock for approximately $30.5 billion. Upon completion of the merger, Zeneca will be renamed AstraZeneca. The proposed Complaint alleges that the merger, if consummated, would 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, in the U.S. market for long-acting local anesthetics.

Long-acting local anesthetics are pharmaceutical products used to relieve pain during the course of surgical or other medical procedures by blocking pain impulses from reaching the central nervous system. Long-acting local anesthetics have an effective duration of up to six to seven hours, and allow patients to remain awake and conscious throughout the medical procedure.

The U.S. market for long-acting local anesthetics is highly concentrated, with a pre-acquisition HHI of 6,682. Astra is the leading supplier of long-acting local anesthetics in the United States and worldwide, and is one of only two companies (along with Abbott Laboratories) with Food and Drug Administration (''FDA'') approval for the manufacture and sale of long-acting local anesthetics in the United States. While Zeneca does not currently sell long-acting local anesthetics, it had entered into an agreement with Chiroscience to market and assist in the development of levobupivacaine (known commercially as Chirocaine), a new long-acting local anesthetic being developed by Chiroscience. Thus, through this agreement with Chiroscience, Zeneca is an actual potential competitor in the U.S. market for long-acting local anesthetics.

The impending introduction of levobupivacaine in 1999 was expected to result in increased competition in the U.S. market for long-acting local anesthetics, leading to lower prices and potential improvements in product safety. The proposed merger of Zeneca and Astra would eliminate this significant source of new competition and leave the long-acting local anesthetic market highly concentrated for the foreseeable future.

It is unlikely that this lost competition would have been replaced by new competitors due to the substantial barriers to entry that exist in the U.S. market for long-acting local anesthetics. A new entrant into this market would need to undertake the difficult, expensive and time-consuming process of researching and developing a new product, obtaining FDA approval and gaining customer acceptance. Because of the difficulty of accomplishing these tasks, new entry into this market, other than Zeneca's and Chiroscience's imminent introduction of levobupivacaine, would not be timely, likely or sufficient to deter or counteract the anticompetitive effects resulting from the merger.

The proposed Consent Order effectively remedies the merger's anticompetitive effects in the U.S. market for long-acting local anesthetics by requiring Zeneca to transfer and surrender all of its rights and assets relating to levobupivacaine to Chiroscience, the developer of levobupivacaine, no later than ten (10) business days after the date the Commission accepts the Consent Agreement for public comment. Under the terms of the Consent Order, Zeneca is required to transfer and surrender these assets pursuant to an agreement entered into between Chiroscience and Zeneca that is defined in the Agreement Containing Consent Order as the ''Chiroscience/Zeneca Agreement.'' The assets to be transferred to Chiroscience consist principally of intellectual property and know-how and include, among other things, all of the applicable patents, trademarks, copyrights, technical information and market research relating to lovobupivacaine. In addition, the Consent Order requires Zeneca to comply with the other provisions of the Chiroscience/Zeneca Agreement. That agreement establishes, among other things, a trasitional period during which Zeneca is required to continue carrying our certain ongoing activities relating to the commercialization of levobupivacaine, including manufacturing, regulatory, clinical, development and marketing activities. The Chiroscience/Zeneca Agreement also contains provisions that will protect the confidentiality of any informaiton provided by Chiroscience to Zeneca in the past, or during the transitional period.

In addition, the Consent Order requires Zeneca to divest its approximately 3% investment interest in Chiroscience within four (4) months of the expiration of the Agreement Amending Share Subscription Agreement, as defined in the proposed Consent Order. Pending divestiture of this investment interest, the Order prohibits Zeneca from, directly or indirectly: (i) Exercising dominion or control over, or otherwise seeking to influence, the management, direction or supervision of the business of Chiroscience; (ii) seeking or obtaining representation on the Board of Directors of Chiroscience; (iii) exercising any voting rights attached to the investment interest; (iv) seeking or obtaining access to any confidential or proprietary informaiton of Chiroscience; or (v) taking any action or failing to take any action in a manner that would be incompatible with the status of Zeneca as a passive investor in Chiroscience.

The proposed Consent Order also requires Zeneca to provide the Commission a report of compliance with the Order within thirty (30) days following the date the Order becomes final and every ninety (90) days thereafter until its has complied with the terms of the Order. Finally, the Order allows the Commission to appoint an Interim Trustee to facilitate an orderly transfer of the levobupivacaine assets and to ensure that Zeneca carries out its obligations under the Consent Agreement and the Chiroscience/Zeneca Agreement.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed Order, and it is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed Order or to modify in any way their terms.

By direction of the Commission.

**Donald S. Clark,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99–7752 Filed 3–29–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–M

## GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

### Federal Supply Service; Revisions to the General Services Administration's (GSA's) Centralized Household Goods Traffic Management Program (CHAMP)

**AGENCY:** Federal Supply Service, GSA.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed program changes for comment.

**SUMMARY:** This notice invites comments on GSA's revised plan to increase the CHAMP shipment surcharge from $45 to $145 instead of $105 as proposed in our January 20, 1999, **Federal Register** notice published for comment (64 FR 3131). Further evaluation of the program's funding status has clearly demonstrated that this action is necessary to increase CHAMP funding to a level that will enable GSA to defray the program's expenses. This notice supersedes the January 20, 1999 **Federal Register** notice.

**DATES:** Please submit your comments by April 29, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail comments to the Transportation Management Division (FBF), General Services Administration, Washington, DC 20406, Attn: **Federal Register** Surcharge Increase Notice. GSA will consider your comments prior to implementing the proposed increase.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Larry Tucker, Senior Program Expert, Transportation Management Division, FSS/GSA, 703–305–5745.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** GSA's CHAMP receives no Congressional funding and must depend on a shipment surcharge, currently $45, to defray its costs. The shipment surcharge has been in effect since 1996 and no longer fully funds program expenses. GSA published a notice for comment in the **Federal Register** on January 20, 1999 (64 FR 3131) announcing its plan to increase the shipment surcharge from $45 to $105, and to revise the Household Goods Tender of Service ''shipment definition'' for the purpose of assessing the surcharge on each component of a shipment (i.e.,