

John M. Sipple, Jr., Esq. Chief Premerger Notification Office Bureau of Competition Room 303 Federal Trade Commission Washington, D.C. 20580

Dear Mr. Sipple:

respectively, in a pending transaction, have encountered a difference in opinion on an HSR point, and we have agreed to ask you to advise us of the position of the Premerger Office. The buyer, a "foreign person" for purposes of the HSR regulations, proposes to buy certain assets located in the United States. The size-of-person test is met. Please assume for purposes of the hypothetical that, as of the date of the closing, the last regularly prepared balance sheet of the seller will show that the book value of the U.S. assets to be transferred is \$10 million. (This balance sheet will also include assets other than the U.S. assets to be transferred to the buyer, a fact I assume is not material.)

As we see it, the question is whether in this hypothetical the parties are entitled to rely upon the exemption set forth in Section 802.51(c), which, as you know, exempts an assets acquisition by a "foreign person" if the "acquisition is of less than \$15 million of assets located in

the Minited Chates (other than investment assets) " Continu

have no knowledge as to how this question would be resolved pursuant to the first principles of justice, my understanding of the position of the Premerger Office is that, for purposes the principles of the position of the Premerger Office is that, for purposes the principle of the position of the Premerger Office is that, for purposes the principle of the princ

would be required. understanding is to the contrary.

I would very much appreciate hearing from you on this matter. My telephone number is

If I do not hear from you in a few days, I will follow up with a telephone call.

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