

January 10, 1992

## VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Victor Cohen, Esq. Federal Trade Commission Premerger Notification Office Warhington no

# Transaction Identification Number

Dear Mr. Cohen:

On behalf of

the sea, and acdustring betson titting tee (tue "ree") baid by the Company in connection with the above-referenced transaction (the "Transaction"). Section 7A(c)(9) of the Act and § 802.9 of the Rules are collectively referred to herein as the "Exemption." The Company believes that, based exclusively upon the particular facts of the Transaction, the acquisi-tion by the Company of the voting securities of

to the Exemption and that, accordingly, the Company is entitled to a reimbursement of the Fee.

# The Facts

Pursuant to a Purchase Agreement dated (the "Agreement") among

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of the Caller agreed to sail the light bull to

shares of the muhlicly registered common stock as

the potential coverage of § 801.2(e) of the Rules to the Company's and the Seller's receipt of such shares of common stock of a Premerger Notification filing was made by the

Premerger Notification filing was made, the Identification Number of which was the Early termination of the waiting period under the Act and Rules was granted for both acquisitions on

In this firm's transmittal letter for the Company's Premerger Notification Form, we requested on behalf of the Company that the Commission reimburse the Fee based upon the

action had, a senior bank loan outstanding (the "Loan"). The lenders under the Loan hold a first security interest in all of the assets of the Company's operating subsidiary, (which is the borrower under the Loan and is referred to herein as the property including all of the assets of the Seller (the Seller is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Loan and is referred to herein as the loan and is referred to herein as the property of the Loan and is referred to herein as the loan and the loa

Transaction, and the Seller were required by such lenders to apply 100% of the proceeds received in the Transaction to pay down the Loan. The Commission is directed to Exhibit A hereto which are excerpts from the Loan. As indicated by paragraphs 1.9.4.1, 1.9.4.2 and 1.9.4.3 of Exhibit A, all proceeds from the Transaction (as well as proceeds from all future sales of assets) must be used to reduce the outstand-

2. Furthermore, due to the fact that the consideration in the Transaction was securities of in order to effect the pay down of the Loan, the Seller was required to promptly liquidate the common stock in order to obtain cash proceeds with which to so pay down the Loan. The Com-

mission is directed to Exhibit B hereto, which is a Bank

3. Moreover, following receipt of the shares of

permitted to control the disposition of the shares other than to sell such shares. The Commission is directed to Exhibit C hereto, which is a Letter of Instruction and Agreement among the lenders under the Loan, the Seller, Pursuant to

this agreement, all shares of common stock received by Seller were transferred, on the closing date of the Transsolely for purposes of resale. As action, to

common stock were held exclusively for sale for the Seller's account; as described in paragraph 9, all proceeds therefrom were for the account of the lenders under the Loan (other than as provided in paragraph 10).

4. In point of fact, all shares of common stock delivered to Seller on the signing of the Agreement and all shares delivered on the consummation of the Transaction were in each case sold by

#### Discussion

be "solely for the purpose of investment." In the July 31, 1978 Statement of Basis and Purpose (43 Fed. Reg. 33,450-33,556) (the "Release"), it is stated that the Exemption "provides that so long as a person does not intend to participate in the formulation of the basic business decisions Victor Cohen, Esq. Federal Trade Commission January 10, 1992 Page 4

On behalf of the Company, it is uncategorically affirmed to the Commission that the Company never had an

tered stock instead of cash. The Company and the Seller were willing to accept such stock in lieu of cash only because the

Moreover, due to the fact that the Company and the Seller were <u>required</u> by the lenders under the Loan and under the terms of the Agreement to sell the common stock,

ipate in basic business decisions. The fact that the Seller disposed of all shares of common stock within 24 hours of receipt thereof only serves to confirm the Company's and the Seller's intentions regarding the voting securities.

The Release, however, continues (also at 33,465) by stating that "certain types of conduct could be . . . viewed" as inconsistent with investment purpose. Of the six enumerated types of conduct, five (numbers (1), (2), (3), (4) and (6)) manifestly are inapplicable to the facts of the Transaction or the Company's or Seller's actions in respect of the

## industry.

The attention of the Commission, though, is directed at the very next sentence of the Release wherein it is stated that "The facts and circumstances of each case will be evaluated whenever any of these actions have been taken by a person, claiming that voting securities are held or acquired

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washastfully suggest to the Commission that under the

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Seller's receipt of the common stock, the mere fact that the Company and may be competitors is not relevant: Even in light of the Commission's policy to generally deny the Exemption to the acquisition of a competitor's voting securities in this case there never could have been any antifrust

were transferred to contention of vool entrop became the

We believe that the facts delineated above are <u>suigeneris</u> so that a determination by the Commission to grant the Company the Exemption and reimburse the Fee will not be

competitors is, we believe, simply not determinative of the existence of investment purpose in a situation where the acquiring party <u>must immediately sell</u> the acquired voting securities due to contractual obligations to its senior bank lenders.

Based upon the foregoing, and on behalf of the Company, we request that the Commission determine that the Seller's and the Company's acquisition of the voting securities of satisfies the Exemption and, accordingly, reimburse the Fee to the Company.

Very truly yours,