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<sup>1</sup> Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, Report 111-43, on the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill, 2010, S 1432, at 85 (July 9, 2009), *available at* [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=11\\_congreports&doid=f:sr043.111.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=11_congreports&doid=f:sr043.111.pdf) As the Commission noted in previous reports to the Appropriations Committees, because this is a public report, it is drafted to exclude sensitive details of ongoing investigations which the Commission is prohibited by law from revealing.

<sup>2</sup> The Commission issued this Rule under the authority of Section 811 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, Pub. L No. 110-140.

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<sup>3</sup> Additional Bureau of Competition offices whose staff have participated in oil and gas matters during

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<sup>6</sup> The Commission's activities involving oil and natural gas also have included the examination of possible anticompetitive conduct by firms in those industries, including an ongoing investigation of conduct

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<sup>8</sup> See <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/alerts/da058.shtm>.

<sup>9</sup> The Commission's 2009 ethanol report, available at <http://www.ftc.gov/os/2009/12/091201ethanolreport.pdf>, concluded that the dynamics of the industry in 2009 – including a continuing “industry trend toward less concentration,” an increase in ethanol production capacity, potential entry by new firms, and the availability of ethanol imports – “make it extremely unlikely that a single ethanol producer or marketer or a small group of such firms could wield sufficient market power to successfully engage in pricefixing or other anticompetitive behavior.”

A number of reports prepared by the FTC or its staff that predate the period covered by the current report to Congress also demonstrate the Commission's commitment to delving deeply into key competition and consumer issues in the energy sector and sharing its expertise with Congress and the public. See, e.g., FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, *2009-2010 Energy Sector Report* (2009), <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/energy>; FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, *2008-2009 Energy Sector Report* (2008), <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/energy>; FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, *2007-2008 Energy Sector Report* (2007), <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/energy>; FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, *2006-2007 Energy Sector Report* (2006), <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/energy>.

