

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS: Joseph J. Simons, Chairman
Noah Joshua Phillips
Rohit Chopra
Rebecca Kelly Slaughter
Christine S. Wilson

	)	
In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Tri Star Energy, LLC ,	)	Docket No. G4720
a limited liability company,	)	
	)	
Hollingsworth Oil Company, Inc.,	)	
a corporation,	)	
	)	
C & H Properties,	)	
a general partnership, and	)	
	)	
Mr. Ronald L. Hollingsworth,	)	
a natural person.	)	
	)	

DECISION

The Federal Trade Commission ("Commission") initiated an investigation of the proposed acquisition by Respondent Tri Star Energy, LLC ("Tri Star") of certain assets of Respondent Hollingsworth Oil Company Inc. ("HOC")

alleged in the Draft Complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true, (3) waivers and other

procurement practices and information, supplier qualification and approvals and information, and training practices.

- K. "Consent" means any approval, consent, ratification, waiver, or other authorization.
- L. "Contract" means all agreements, contracts, licenses, leases (including, but not limited to, ground leases and subleases), consensual obligations, binding commitments, promises and undertakings (whether written or oral and whether express or implied), whether or not legally binding.
- M. "Cost" means costs not to exceed the actual cost of labor, goods and material, travel,

1. Name, job title or position, date of hire, and effective service date;
2. Specific description of the employee's responsibilities;
3. The base salary or current wages;
4. Most recent bonus paid, aggregate annual compensation for Respondent's last fiscal year, and current target or guaranteed bonus, if any;
5. Written performance reviews for the past three years, if any;
6. Employment status (i.e., active or on leave or disability; fulltime or parttime);
7. Any other material terms and conditions of employment in regard to such employee that are not otherwise generally available to similarly situated employees; and
8. At the Acquirer's option, copies of all employee benefit plans and summary plan descriptions (if any) applicable to the employee.

S. "Equipment" means all tangible personal property (other than Inventories) of every kind owned or leased by Respondents in connection with the operation of the Retail Fuel Outlet Business, including, but not limited to all: fixtures, furniture, computer equipment and third party software, office equipment, telephone systems, security systems, registers, credit card systems, credit card invoice printers and electronic point-of-sale devices, money order machines and money order stock, shelving, display racks, walk-in coolers, furnishings, signage, canopies, fuel dispensing equipment, systems (including all fuel storage tanks, fill holes and fill hole covers and tops, pipelines, vapor lines, pumps, hoses, Stage I and Stage II vapor recovery equipment, containment devices, monitoring equipment, cathodic protection systems, and other elements associated with any of the foregoing), parts, tools, supplies, and all other items of equipment or tangible personal property of any nature or other systems used in the operation of the Retail Fuel Outlet Business, together with any express or implied warranty by the manufacturers or sellers or lessors of any item or component part to the extent such warranty is transferrable and all maintenance records and other related documents

T. "Fuel Products" means refined petroleum gasoline and diesel products.

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provision

2. All Equipment including any Equipment removed from any location of the Retail Fuel Outlet Business since the date of the announcement of the Acquisition and not replaced;
3. All Inventories;
4. All Contracts and all outstanding offers or solicitations to enter into any Contract, and all rights thereunder and related thereto, to the extent transferable, and Acquirer's option;
5. All Governmental Permits, and all pending applications therefor or renewals thereof, to the extent transferable;
6. All intangible rights and property, including Intellectual Property, owned or licensed (as licensor or licensee) Respondents, to the extent transferable or licensable), going concern value, goodwill, and telephone and telecopy listings and
7. Business Information provided, however that in cases in which Business Information included in the Retail Fuel Assets contain information in force 5 (i) 0.5 (o)-157 Tw 4

JJ. "Transition Assistance" means technical services, personnel, assistance, training, supply of products, and other logistical, administrative, and other transitional support as

absolutely and in good faith, at no minimum price, to a Person that receives the prior approval of the Commission and in a manner that receives the prior approval of the Commission; or

2. The manner in which the divestiture of ~~the~~ Retail Fuel Assets to Cox was accomplished is not acceptable, the Commission may direct Respondents, or appoint a Divestiture Trustee, to effect such modifications to the manner of divestiture of the Retail Fuel Assets as the Commission may determine necessary to satisfy the requirements of this Order
- C. Respondents shall obtain ~~later than~~ the Divestiture Date and at their sole expense all Consents from Third Parties and all Governmental Permits that are necessary to effect the complete transfer and divestiture of ~~the~~ Retail Fuel Assets to the Acquirer and for the

1. As

a manner consistent with applicable laws and regulations, and to prevent the destruction, removal, wasting, deterioration, or impairment of Retail Fuel Assets and Retail Fuel Outlet Business, except for ordinary wear and tear. Respondents shall not sell, transfer, encumber, or otherwise impair the Retail Fuel Assets and Retail Fuel 64.5 (l)-102.-6 (e)0.5 (s)83nw

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construed to require Respondents to terminate the employment of any employee or prevent Respondents from continuing employment of any employee;

4.

1. Shall have the authority to monitor Respondents compliance with the obligations set forth in this Order and the Order to Maintain Assets;
2. Shall act in consultation with the Commission or its staff
3. Shall serve as an independent third party and not as an employee or fiduciary of Respondents or of the Commission;
4. Shall serve at the expense of Respondents without bond or other security;
5. May employ, at the cost and expense of Respondents such consultants, accountants, attorneys, and other representatives and assistants as are reasonably necessary to carry out the Monitor's duties and responsibilities;
6. Shall enter into a confidentiality agreement related to Commission materials and information received in connection with the performance of the Monitor's duties and each of the Monitor's tools.

- G. Respondent may require the Monitor and each of the Monitor's consultants, accountants, attorneys, and other representatives and assistants to enter into customary confidentiality agreements, provided, however, that such agreement does

enforced by the Commission Respondents

divested, delivered, or otherwise conveyed by this Order and to any other relevant information, as the Divestiture Trustee may request. Respondents shall develop such financial or other information as the Divestiture Trustee may request and shall cooperate with the Divestiture Trustee. Respondents shall take no action to interfere with or impede the Divestiture Trustee's accomplishment of the divestiture. Any delays in divestiture caused by Respondents shall extend the time for divestiture under this Paragraph in an amount equal to the delay, as determined by the Court.

Trustee" shall include all Persons retained by the Divestiture Trust pursuant to Paragraph IX.E.5 of this Order;

7. The Divestiture Trustee shall have no obligation or authority to operate or maintain the Retail Fuel Assets required to be divested by this Order
 8. The Divestiture Trustee shall report in writing to Respondents and to the Commission every 60 days concerning the Divestiture Trustee's efforts to accomplish the divestiture; and
 9. Respondents may require the Divestiture Trustee and each of the Divestiture Trustee's consultants, accountants, attorneys, and other representatives and assistants to sign a customary confidentiality agreement; provided, however, such agreement shall not restrict the Divestiture Trustee from providing any information to the Commission.
- F. The Commission may require the Divestiture Trustee and each of the Divestiture Trustee's consultants, accountants, attorneys, and other representatives and assistants to sign a confidentiality agreement related to Commission materials and information received in connection with the performance of the Divestiture Trustee's duties.
- G. If the Commission determines that a Divestiture Trustee has ceased to act or failed to act diligently, the Commission may appoint a substitute Divestiture Trustee in the same manner as provided in this Paragraph, and who will have the same authority and responsibilities of the original Divestiture Trustee pursuant to this Paragraph. If a Divestiture Trustee has ceased to act or failed to act diligently, the Commission may appoint a substitute Divestiture Trustee in the same manner as provided in this Paragraph, and who will have the same authority and responsibilities of the original Divestiture Trustee pursuant to this Paragraph.

Federal Regulations as amended, and shall be prepared and transmitted in accordance with the requirements of that part, except that no fee will be required for any such Notification, notification shall be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, notification need not be made to the United States Department of Justice, and notification is required only of the Respondents and not of other party to the transaction.

2. Respondents shall include a description of the proposed acquisition and provide:
 - (a) A map showing all retail fuel outlets by ownership (OPIS Corporate Brand) within 5 driving miles of the relevant Prior Notice Outlet;
 - (b) For each retail fuel outlet owned by Respondent within 5 driving miles of the relevant Prior Notice Outlet, a list of the retail fuel outlets that Respondents monitored at any time with the preceding 12 month period (to the extent such information is available); and
 - (c) Respondents pricing strategy in relation to each monitored retail fuel outlet identified in response to Paragraph XB.2.(b) of this Order
3. Respondents shall provide the Notification to the Commission at least 30 days prior to consummating the transaction (hereinafter referred to as the "first waiting period"). If, within the first waiting period, representatives of the Commission make a written request for additional information or documentary material (within the meaning of 16 C.F.R. § 803.20), Respondents shall not consummate the transaction until 30 days after submitting such additional information or documentary material.
4. Early termination of the waiting periods in this Paragraph X may be requested and, where appropriate, granted by letter from the Bureau of Competition. Provided, however, that prior Notification shall not be required by this Paragraph for a transaction for which notification is required to be made, and has been made, pursuant to Section 7A of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. § 18a.

XI. Compliance Reports

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

- A. Respondents Tri Star, HOC, and C & H shall:
 1. notify Commission staff via email btcompliance@ftc.gov of the Acquisition Date no later than 5 days after the Acquisition Date, and;
 2. submit the complete Divestiture Agreement to the Commission at ElectronicFilings@ftc.gov and bccompliance@ftc.gov no later than 30 days after the Divestiture Date.

B. Respondents Tri Star, HOC, and C & H

C.

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