

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS,

and

STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DAIRY FARMERS OF AMERICA, INC.

and

DEAN FOODS COMPANY,

Defendants.

UNITED STATES' EXPLANATION OF CONSENT DECREE PROCEDURES

The United States submits this short memorandum summarizing the procedures regarding the Court's entry of the proposed Final Judgment. This Judgment would settle this case pursuant to the Antitrust Procedures and Penalties Act, 15 U.S.C. § 16(b)-(h) (the "APPA"), which applies to civil antitrust cases brought and settled by the United States.

1. Today, the United States, the State of Wisconsin, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("Plaintiff States") have filed a Complaint and, attached to this Explanation of Consent Decree Procedures, a proposed Final Judgment and an Asset Preservation and Hold Separate Stipulation and Order between the parties by which they have agreed that the Court

may enter the proposed Final Judgment after the United States has complied with the APPA. The United States will also file a Competitive Impact Statement relating to the proposed Final Judgment.

2. The Asset Preservation and Hold Separate Stipulation and Order is a document that has been agreed to by both the United States and the Defendants. The United States and the Defendants ask that the Court sign this Order, which ensures that the Defendants preserve competition by complying with the provisions of the proposed Final Judgment and by maintaining any assets to be divested during the pendency of the proceedings required by the Tunney Act. *See* 15 U.S.C. § 16(b)-(h).

3. The APPA requires that the United States publish the proposed Final Judgment and the Competitive Impact Statement in the *Federal Register* and cause to be published a summary of the terms of the proposed Final Judgment and the Competitive Impact Statement in certain newspapers at least sixty (60) days prior to entry of the proposed Final Judgment. Defendants in this matter have agreed to arrange and bear the costs for the newspaper notices. The notice will inform members of the public that they may submit comments about the proposed Final Judgment to the United States Department of Justice, Antitrust Division. *See* 15 U.S.C. § 16(b)-(c).

4. During the sixty-day period, the United States will consider, and at the close of that period respond to, any comments that it has received, and it will publish the comments and the United States' responses on the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division's internet website and, under certain circumstances, in the *Federal Register*.

5. After the expiration of the sixty-day period, the United States will file with the Court the comments and the United States' responses, and it may ask the Court to enter the proposed Final Judgment (unless the United States has decided to withdraw its consent to entry of the Final Judgment, as permitted by Paragraph IV.A of the Asset Preservation and Hold Separate Stipulation and Order, *see* 15 U.S.C. § 16(d)).

6. If the United States requests that the Court enter the proposed Final Judgment after compliance with the APPA, 15 U.S.C. § 16(e)-(f), then the Court may enter the Final Judgment without a hearing, provided that it concludes that the Final Judgment is in the public interest.

Dated: May 1, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

FOR PLAINTIFF
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

/s/

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Karl D. Knutsen, hereby certify that on May 1, 2020, I caused a copy of the Complaint, Explanation of Consent Decree Procedures, Asset Preservation and Hold Separate Stipulation and Order, and proposed Final Judgment to be served on Defendants Dairy Farmers of America, Inc. and Dean Foods Company by mailing the documents electronically to their duly authorized legal representatives as follows:

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