

involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Smith, Director, or Dave Skidmore, Assistant to the Board, Office of Board Members at 202-452-2955.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: You may call 202-452-3206 beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before the meeting for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting; or you may contact the Board's Web site at <http://www.federalreserve.gov> for an electronic announcement that not only lists applications, but also indicates procedural and other information about the meeting.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 30, 2007.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 07-5944 Filed 11-30-07; 3:34 pm]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-M

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 071 0120]

The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, Inc. and Pathmark Stores, Inc.; Analysis of Complaint and Proposed Consent Order to Aid Public Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed Consent Agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint and the terms of the consent order—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 27, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments. Comments should refer to "A&P Pathmark, File No. 071 0120," to facilitate the organization of comments. A comment filed in paper form should include this reference both in the text and on the envelope, and should be mailed or delivered to the following address: Federal Trade Commission/Office of the Secretary, Room 135-H, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580. Comments

containing confidential material must be filed in paper form, must be clearly labeled "Confidential," and must comply with Commission Rule 4.9(c). 16 CFR 4.9(c) (2005).¹ The FTC is requesting that any comment filed in paper form be sent by courier or overnight service, if possible, because U.S. postal mail in the Washington area and at the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security precautions. Comments that do not contain any nonpublic information may instead be filed in electronic form as part of or as an attachment to email messages directed to the following email box: consentagreement@ftc.gov.

The FTC Act and other laws the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. All timely and responsive public comments, whether filed in paper or electronic form, will be considered by the Commission, and will be available to the public on the FTC website, to the extent practicable, at www.ftc.gov. As a matter of discretion, the FTC makes every effort to remove home contact information for individuals from the public comments it receives before placing those comments on the FTC website. More information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, may be found in the FTC's privacy policy, at <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cathy Moscatelli, FTC Bureau of Competition, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580, (202) 326-2749.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and § 2.34 of the Commission Rules of Practice, 16 CFR 2.34, notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC

¹ The comment must be accompanied by an explicit request for confidential treatment, including the factual and legal basis for the request, and must identify the specific portions of the comment to be withheld from the public record. The request will be granted or denied by the Commission's General Counsel, consistent with applicable law and the public interest. See Commission Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c).

Home Page (for November 27, 2007), on the World Wide Web, at <http://www.ftc.gov/os/2007/11/index.htm>. A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room 130-H, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326-2222.

Public comments are invited, and may be filed with the Commission in either paper or electronic form. All comments should be filed as prescribed in the **ADDRESSES** section above, and must be received on or before the date specified in the **DATES** section.

Analysis of Agreement Containing Consent Order to Aid Public Comment

I. Introduction

The Federal Trade Commission ("Commission") has accepted for public comment, and subject to final approval, an Agreement Containing Consent Orders ("Consent Agreement") from The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, Inc. ("A&P") and Pathmark Stores, Inc. ("Pathmark"). The purpose of the Consent Agreement is to remedy the anticompetitive effects that likely would result from A&P's proposed \$1.3 billion acquisition (a figure that includes the assumption of debt by A&P) of Pathmark, as alleged in the Complaint the Commission has issued.

The Consent Agreement provides for relief in two markets where the Commission believes the proposed acquisition is anticompetitive. Under the terms of the Consent Agreement, A&P must divest four Waldbaum's supermarkets and one Pathmark supermarket in Staten Island, New York, and one Waldbaum's supermarket in Shirley, Long Island, New York.

The Commission, A&P, and Pathmark have also agreed to an Order to Maintain Assets. This order requires A&P and Pathmark to maintain the assets required by the Consent Agreement to be divested, pending their divestiture.

The investigation and settlement negotiations were conducted in close cooperation with the Office of the New York State Attorney General, which anticipates entering into an agreement with the parties that mirrors the proposed consent order divestitures.

II. The Parties and the Transaction

A&P is a corporation organized, existing, and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Maryland, with its office and principal place of business located at 2 Paragon Drive, Montvale, New Jersey 07645. The company owns and operates about 316 supermarkets in the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New

York, New Jersey, and in the District of Columbia. A&P operates its supermarkets under the A&P, A&P Super Foodmart, Food Basics, Food Emporium, Super Fresh and Waldbaum's banners. A&P had revenues from all operations in 2006 of about \$6.9 billion.

Pathmark is a corporation organized, existing, and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Delaware, with its office and principal place of business located at 200 Milik Street, Carteret, New Jersey 07008. The company owns and operates about 141 supermarkets in the States of Delaware, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, all operating under the Pathmark banner. Pathmark had revenues in 2006 of about \$4.1 billion.

Under the terms of their March 4, 2007, agreement, A&P will acquire all of the voting securities of Pathmark for approximately \$1.3 billion, including the assumption of debt.

III. The Complaint

According to the Commission's Complaint, A&P and Pathmark compete in the retail sale of grocery products from supermarkets. Supermarkets are stores that carry a wide selection and deep inventory of food and grocery products in a variety of brands and sizes, enabling consumers to purchase substantially all of their food and other grocery shopping requirements in a single shopping visit.

The Complaint alleges that the acquisition by A&P of Pathmark would be competitively problematic in Staten Island, New York, and Shirley, Long Island, New York, both of which are highly concentrated geographic markets. As alleged in the Complaint, the proposed acquisition may increase opportunities for all firms in these markets to engage in coordinated interaction or for A&P to exercise unilateral market power, leading to higher prices or decreases in services. The Complaint further alleges that entry would not be timely, likely, or sufficient to prevent anticompetitive effects in the geographic markets.

The Complaint alleges that the proposed acquisition, if consummated, would violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, by lessening competition in connection with the retail sale of grocery products from supermarkets.

IV. The Proposed Consent Order

Under the terms of the proposed Consent Order, Respondent A&P must sell four Waldbaum's supermarket

stores and one Pathmark supermarket store in Staten Island and a Waldbaum's store in Shirley, Long Island, together with their related assets. The addresses of the Waldbaum's stores required to be divested are as follows:

1. 3251 Richmond Ave. South
Staten Island, NY
2. 778 Manor Road
Staten Island, NY
3. 4343 Amboy Road
Staten Island, NY
4. 1441 Richmond Ave
Staten Island, NY
5. 999 Montauk Hwy.
Shirley, NY

The address of the one Pathmark store required to be divested is:

1. 2660 Hylan Blvd
Staten Island, NY

The one Pathmark store and four Waldbaum's stores in Staten Island are required to be divested to King Kullen Grocery Co., Inc., headquartered in Bethpage, New York, and the Waldbaum's store in Shirley is required to be divested to The Stop & Shop Supermarket Company LLC ("Stop & Shop"). Stop & Shop is a subsidiary of Koninklijke Ahold NV, a Dutch corporation. The Commission evaluated these prospective acquirers and determined that they are well qualified to operate the divested supermarkets.

The proposed Consent Order requires that the divestitures occur no later than January 10, 2008. If Respondents consummate the divestitures to the purchasers during the public comment period, and if, at the time the Commission determines whether to make the proposed Consent Order final, the Commission notifies Respondents that the purchasers are not acceptable acquirers, or that the asset purchase agreements with those acquirers are not acceptable manners of divestiture, then Respondents must immediately rescind those transactions and divest the five Waldbaum's stores and one Pathmark store (and their related assets) to other buyers, within three (3) months of the date the Consent Order becomes final. Under those circumstances, Respondents must divest those stores and related assets only to an acquirer that receives the prior approval of the Commission and only in a manner that receives the prior approval of the Commission. In the event Respondents have not divested the supermarkets in a manner that satisfies the requirements of the Consent Order, the Commission may appoint a trustee to divest those assets.

The Commission has also issued an Order to Maintain Assets. Under its terms, Respondents are required to maintain the viability of the six supermarkets and their related assets pending their divestiture. More specifically, Respondents must: (1) maintain the viability, competitiveness, and marketability of the assets; (2) not cause the wasting or deterioration of those assets; (3) not sell, transfer, encumber, or otherwise impair the marketability of the assets; (4) maintain the supermarkets consistent with the parties' past practices; (5) use best efforts to preserve the supermarkets' existing relationships with suppliers, customers, and employees; and (6) keep the supermarkets open for business and maintain inventories at levels consistent with past practices.

The proposed Consent Order prohibits Respondents, for a period of ten years, from acquiring, without providing the Commission with prior notice, any ownership or leasehold interest in any facility that has operated as a supermarket within six (6) months prior to the date of such proposed acquisition, in Staten Island, New York, and the Shirley, Long Island, New York area. The proposed Consent Order also prohibits Respondents, for a period of ten (10) years, from entering into or enforcing any agreement that restricts the ability of any person acquiring any interest in any location formerly used by Respondents as a supermarket in Staten Island or the Shirley area to operate that location as a supermarket. The proposed Consent Order does not prohibit Respondents from building new supermarkets, or leasing a facility not operated as a supermarket within the preceding six (6) months.

Under the terms of the proposed Consent Order, A&P is also required to provide the Commission with regular compliance reports demonstrating how it is complying with the terms of the Consent Agreement until it is in full compliance with that Agreement.

V. Opportunity for Public Comment

The proposed Consent Agreement has been placed on the public record for thirty (30) days for the purpose of soliciting comments from the public. All comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After the thirty (30) day comment period, the Commission will again consider the Consent Agreement, together with all comments received. After that second review, the Commission may either withdraw from the Consent Agreement or make its Order final.

By accepting the Consent Agreement subject to final approval, the Commission anticipates that the competitive problems alleged in the Complaint will be resolved. The purpose of this analysis is to invite public comment on the Consent Order, including the proposed divestitures, to aid the Commission in its determination whether it should make final the Consent Agreement. This analysis is not an official interpretation of the Consent Agreement nor does it modify any of its terms.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,
Secretary.
[FR Doc. E7–23419 Filed 12–3–07; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6750–01–S

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Comment Request Proposed Project

Title: Building Strong Families (BSF) Demonstration and Evaluation—Impact Study Second Follow-up.

OMB No.: New Collection.

Description: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is proposing a data collection activity as part of the Building Strong Families (BSF) Demonstration and Evaluation. The proposed collection will consist of two elements: (1) A telephone survey to be administered to both partners in couples enrolled in the BSF research sample about 36 months after enrollment, and (2) observational assessments of BSF families and their children.

These data collections are part of the BSF evaluation, which is an important opportunity to learn if well-designed

interventions can help low-income couples develop the knowledge and relationship skills that research has shown are associated with healthy marriages. BSF programs provide instruction and support to improve marriage and relationship skills and enhance couples' understanding of marriage. In addition, BSF programs provide links to a variety of other services that could help couples sustain a healthy relationship (e.g., employment assistance). The BSF evaluation uses an experimental design that randomly assigns couples who volunteer to participate in BSF programs to a program or to a control group.

The 36-month data collection effort draws heavily from the 15-month survey conducted in BSF sites. Materials for the 15-month data collection effort were previously submitted to OMB and were approved under OMB Control No. 0970–0304.

Respondents: The respondents for the telephone questionnaire will be all couples in the BSF evaluation. The respondents for the observational assessments will be a sub-sample of children of the couples.

ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES

Instrument	Annual number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Estimated annual burden hours
36-month telephone survey (female partner)	2,099	1	.9166666 (55 minutes)	1,924
36-month telephone survey (male partner)	1,978	1	.8333333 (50 minutes)	1,648
Child/family observations	1,125	1	.6666666 (40 minutes)	750

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,322.

In compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Administration for Children and Families is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described above. Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained and comments may be forwarded by writing to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Administration, Office of Information Services, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC 20447, Attn: ACF Reports Clearance Officer. E-mail address: infocollection@acf.hhs.gov. All requests should be identified by the title of the information collection.

The Department specifically requests comments on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have

practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted within 60 days of this publication.

Dated: November 26, 2007.

Brendan C. Kelly,
OPRE Reports Clearance Officer.
[FR Doc. 07–5916 Filed 12–03–07; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4184–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 2007N–0453]

DSM Nutritional Products, Inc.; Filing of Color Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that DSM Nutritional Products, Inc., has filed a petition proposing that the color additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of astaxanthin dimethyldisuccinate as a color additive in the feed of salmonid fish to enhance the color of their flesh.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Felicia M. Ellison, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS–265), Food and Drug Administration,