activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than July 7, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2034:

1. The Union Illinois 1995 Investment Limited Partnership, Swansea, Illinois; to acquire at least a total of 13.18 percent, and up to a total of 18.22 percent, of the voting shares of Union Illinois Company, Swansea, Illinois, and thereby indirectly acquire Union Bank of Illinois, Swansea, Illinois, and State Bank of Jerseyville, Jerseyville, Illinois.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (Karen L. Grandstrand, Vice President) 250 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-2171:

1. New Prague Bancshares, Inc., New Prague, Minnesota; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Community Security Bank, New Prague, Minnesota, a *de novo* bank.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, June 5, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97–15270 Filed 6–10–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–F

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 972–3187]

Sears, Roebuck and Co.; Analysis 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 that accompanies the consent agreement 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 August 11, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be directed to: FTC/Office of the Secretary, Room 159, 6th St. and Pa. Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20580.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Medine, Federal Trade Commission, S–4429, 6th and Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20580. (202) 326–3224. Paul Block, Boston Regional Office, Federal Trade Commission, 101 Merrimac Street, Suite 810, Boston, MA 02114–4719. (617) 424–5960.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46, and Section 2.34 of the Commission's 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 sixty (60) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the accompanying complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the Commission Actions section of the FTC Home Page (for June 4, 1997), on the World Wide Web, at ''http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions/htm.'' A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room H–130, Sixth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326–3627. Public comment is invited. Such comments or views will be considered by the Commission and will be available for inspection and copying at its principal office in accordance with Section 4.9(b)(6)(ii) of the Commission's Rules of Practice (16 CFR 4.9(b)(6)(ii)).

Analysis of Proposed Consent Order to Aid Public Comment

The Federal Trade Commission has accepted an agreement to a proposed consent order from Sears, Roebuck and Co. The proposed respondent is a large national retailer that sells a wide variety of products and services.

The proposed consent order has been placed on the public record for sixty (60) days for reception of comments by interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After sixty (60) days, the Commission will again review the agreement and the comments received and will decide whether it should withdraw from the agreement and take other appropriate action or make final the agreement's proposed order.

The Commission's complaint alleges several unfair or deceptive acts or practices related to the proposed respondent's policy of inducing consumers who have filed for bankruptcy protection to sign agreements reaffirming debts owed to proposed respondent prior to the filing of the bankruptcy petition. The complaint charges that the proposed respondent: falsely represented to consumers that signed reaffirmation agreements would be filed with the bankruptcy courts, as required by the United States Bankruptcy Code; falsely represented to consumers that debts associated with unfiled reaffirmation agreements, or agreements that were filed but not approved by the bankruptcy courts, were legally binding on the consumers; and unfairly collected debts that it was not permitted by law to collect. The proposed consent order contains provisions designed to remedy the violations charged and to prevent the proposed respondent from engaging in similar acts in the future.

The proposed consent order preserves the Commission's right to seek consumer redress if the Commission determines that redress to consumers provided through related named and unnamed legal actions is not adequate.

Part I of the proposed order prohibits the proposed respondent from misrepresenting to consumers who have filed petitions for bankruptcy protection under the United States Bankruptcy Code that (A) Reaffirmation agreements will be filed in bankruptcy court; or (B) any reaffirmation agreement is legally binding on the consumer. Part I.C of the proposed order prohibits the proposed respondent from collecting any debt (including any interest, fee, charge, or expense incidental to the principal obligation) that has been legally discharged in bankruptcy proceedings and that the proposed respondent is not permitted by law to collect. Part II of the proposed order prohibits the proposed respondent from making any material misrepresentation in the collection of any debt subject to a pending bankruptcy proceeding.

Part III of the proposed order contains record keeping requirements for materials that demonstrate the compliance of the proposed respondent with the proposed order. Part IV requires distribution of a copy of the consent decree to certain current and future principals, officers, directors, managers, and representatives.

Part V provides for Commission notification upon any change in the corporate respondent affecting compliance obligations arising under the order. Part VI requires the proposed respondent to notify the Commission of proposed settlement terms in related actions filed by various named and unnamed parties. Part VII requires the filing of compliance report(s). Finally, Part VIII provides for the termination of the order after twenty years under certain circumstances.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed order, and it is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed order or to modify in any way their terms.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97–15282 Filed 6–10–97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Announcement 757]

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; Epidemiologic Studies To Evaluate Health Effects of Uranium Milling; Notice of Availability of Funds for Fiscal Year for 1997

Introduction

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1997 funds for a cooperative agreement program to design and conduct epidemiologic studies evaluating the health effects of uranium milling.

CDC is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of Healthy People 2000, a national activity to reduce morbidity and mortality and improve the quality of life. This announcement is related to the priority area of Occupational Safety and Health. (For ordering a copy of Healthy People 2000, see the section Where To Obtain Additional Information.)

Authority

This program is authorized under Section 501 of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act (30 U.S.C. 951).

Smoke-Free Workplace

CDC strongly encourages all grant recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and promote the nonuse of all tobacco products, and Public Law 103–227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities that receive Federal funds in which education, library, day care, health care, and early childhood development services are provided to children.

Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by public and private, non-profit and for-profit organizations and governments, and their agencies. Thus, universities, colleges, research institutions, hospitals, other public and private organizations, State and local health departments or their bona fide agents, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, Indian tribes or Indian tribal organizations, and small, minority-and/or women-owned businesses are eligible to apply.

Note: Public Law 104–65, dated December 19, 1995, prohibits an organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the IRS Code of 1986, that engages in lobbying activities to influence the Federal Government, from receiving Federal funds.

Availability of Funds

Approximately $300,000 is available in FY 1997 to fund one award. It is expected that the award will begin on or about September 1, 1997, and will be made for a 12-month budget period with a one year project period.

Preapplication Teleconference

Applicants are invited by CDC/NIOSH to attend a preapplication technical assistance teleconference on Monday, June 16, 1997, at 2:00 p.m.(EDT) to discuss the programmatic issues and time constraints regarding this program, and to ask question regarding its content. This teleconference is expected to last approximately one hour. All conference calls are scheduled on Eastern time. The conference name is ‘‘Uranium Millers Technical Assistance’’. The telephone bridge number for Federal participants is 404/639–4100 and for Non-Federal participants it is 800/713–1971. Participants will need the conference code, 575934, to be connected.

Use of Funds

Restrictions on Lobbying

Applicants should be aware of restrictions on the use of HHS funds for lobbying of Federal or State legislative bodies. Under the provisions of 31 U.S.C. Section 1352 (which has been in effect since December 23, 1989), recipients (and their subtier contractors) are prohibited from using appropriated Federal funds (other than profits from a Federal contract) for lobbying Congress or any Federal agency in connection with the award of a particular contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or loan. This includes grants/cooperative agreements that, in whole or in part, involve conferences for which Federal funds cannot be used directly or indirectly to encourage participants to lobby or to instruct participants on how to lobby.

In addition, the FY 1997 HHS Appropriations Act, which became effective October 1, 1996, expressly prohibits the use of 1997 appropriated funds for indirect or ‘‘grass roots’’ lobbying efforts that are designed to support or defeat legislation pending before State legislatures. This new law, Section 503 of Pub. L. No. 104–208, provides as follows:

Sec. 503(a) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, for the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or video presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress, * * * except in presentation to the Congress or any State legislative body itself.

(b) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used to pay the salary or expenses of any grant or contract recipient, or agent acting for such recipient, related to any activity designed to influence legislation or appropriations pending before the Congress or any State legislature.

Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997, as enacted by the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997, Division A, Title I, Section 101(e), Pub. L. No. 104–208 (September 30, 1996).

Background

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is developing and conducting a study of the health effects associated with uranium milling and will be awarding cooperative agreement funds to support this effort.

NIOSH is conducting this research pursuant to an agreement with the United States Army Environmental Hygiene Agency in follow-up to a 1994 Congressional mandate to the Department of Defense. Public Law 103–139 provides that the Department of Defense shall conduct ‘‘* * * a study of the health effects of uranium milling, including the effects of exposure to radon chemicals and uranium, on the health of those individuals employed in uranium mills in the southwestern United States during the period beginning on January 1, 1947, and ending on December 31, 1971.’’

NIOSH has been evaluating available personnel and exposure records for uranium mills which operated in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Arizona between 1947 and 1971 to determine which types of epidemiologic studies of the health effects of uranium milling would be feasible given the