Amended Notices

EIS No. 20160236, Final, FAA, OR, ADOPTION—Military Readiness Activities at Naval Weapons System Training Facility Boardman, Contact: Paula Miller 202–267–7378. The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has adopted the U.S. Navy’s FEIS # 20150355, filed with the USEPA 12/28/2015. FAA was a cooperating agency on the project. Recirculation of the document is not necessary under Section 1506.3 of the CEQ Regulations.

Dated: October 11, 2016.

Karin Leff,
Acting Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

[FR Doc. 2016–24902 Filed 10–12–16; 11:15 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Election Commission.

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street NW., Washington, DC.

STATUS: This meeting will be closed to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: Compliance matters pursuant to 52 U.S.C. 30109. Matters concerning participation in civil actions or proceeding, or arbitration. Information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to have a considerable adverse effect on the implementation of a proposed Commission action.

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PERSON TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:
Judith Ingram, Press Officer, Telephone: (202) 694–1220.

Shawn Woodhead Werth, Commission Secretary and Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2016–24969 Filed 10–12–16; 11:15 am]
BILLING CODE 6731–AA–P

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Notice

October 11, 2016.

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m., Friday, October 21, 2016.


STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Commission will consider and act upon the following in open session: Secretary of Labor v. Northshore Mining Company, Docket No. LAKE 2014–219–M (Issues include whether the Judge erred in interpreting a regulation that addresses the reporting of eye injuries.)

Any person attending this meeting who requires special accessibility features and/or auxiliary aids, such as sign language interpreters, must inform the Commission in advance of those needs. Subject to 29 CFR 2706.150(a)(3) and 2706.160(d).

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFO:
Emogene Johnson (202–326–2107), Robert Canterman (202–326–2107), Bureau of Competition, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite CC–5610 (Annex D), Washington, DC 20580, or deliver your comment to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite CC–5610 (Annex D), Washington, DC 20037, and on the envelope, and mail your comments to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Constitution Center, 400 7th Street SW., 5th Floor, Suite 5610 (Annex D), Washington, DC 20004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Robert Canterman (202–326–2107), Bureau of Competition, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20580.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and FTC Rule 2.34, 16 CFR 2.34, notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing consent orders 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

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 161 0096]

CentraCare Health System; 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 methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the complaint and the terms of the consent orders—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 7, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may file a comment at https://ftcpublic.commentworks.com/ftc/centracareconsent online or on paper, by following the instructions in the Request for Comment part of the

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below. Write “CentraCare Health System; Analysis to Aid Public Comment” on your comment and file your comment online at https://ftcpublic.commentworks.com/ftc/centracareconsent by following the instructions on the Web-based form. If you prefer to file your comment on paper, write “CentraCare Health System; Analysis to Aid Public Comment” on your comment and on the envelope, and mail your comments to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite CC–5610 (Annex D), Washington, DC 20037, and on the envelope, and mail your comments to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Constitution Center, 400 7th Street SW., 5th Floor, Suite 5610 (Annex D), Washington, DC 20004.

Analysis to Aid Public Comment

CentraCare Health System; Analysis to Aid Public Comment

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 methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the complaint and the terms of the consent orders—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

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complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for October 6, 2016), on the World Wide Web, at http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions.shtm.

You can file a comment online or on paper. For the Commission to consider your comment, we must receive it on or before November 7, 2016. Write “St. Cloud Medical Group/CentraCare Health, File No. 1610096—Consent Agreement” on your comment. Your comment—including your name and your state—will be placed on the public record of this proceeding, including, to the extent practicable, on the public Commission Web site, at http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtm. As a matter of discretion, the Commission tries to remove individuals’ home contact information from comments before placing them on the Commission Web site.

Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive personal information, like anyone’s Social Security number, date of birth, driver’s license number or other state identification number or foreign country equivalent, passport number, financial account number, or credit or debit card number. You are also solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive health information, like medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, do not include any “[t]rade secret or any commercial or financial information which . . . is privileged or confidential,” as discussed in Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and FTC Rule 4.10(a)(2). 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2). In particular, do not include competitively sensitive information such as costs, sales statistics, inventories, formulas, patterns, devices, manufacturing processes, or customer names.

If you want the Commission to give your comment confidential treatment, you must file it in paper form, with a request for confidential treatment, and you have to follow the procedure explained in FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c). Your comment will be kept confidential only if the FTC General Counsel, in his or her sole discretion, grants your request in accordance with the law and the public interest.

Postal mail addressed to the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security screening. As a result, we encourage you to submit your comments online. To make sure that the Commission considers your online comment, you must file it at https://ftcpublic.commentworks.com/ftc/centracareconsent by following the instructions on the Web-based form. If this Notice appears at http://www.regulations.gov/#!home, you also may file a comment through that Web site. If you file your comment on paper, write “St. Cloud Medical Group/ ContraCare Health, File No. 1610096—Consent Agreement” on your comment and on the envelope, and mail your comment to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 5C-5610 (Annex D), Washington, DC 20580, or deliver your comment to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Constitution Center, 400 7th Street SW., 5th Floor, Suite 5610 (Annex D), Washington, DC.

Visit the Commission Web site at http://www.ftc.gov to read this Notice and the news release describing it. The FTC Act and other laws that the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. The Commission will consider all timely and responsive public comments that it receives on or before November 7, 2016. You can find more information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, in the Commission’s privacy policy, at http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.htm.

Analysis of Agreement Containing Consent Orders To Aid Public Comment

I. Overview

The Federal Trade Commission has accepted, subject to final approval, an Agreement Containing Consent Orders (“Consent Agreement”) from CentraCare Health that is designed to mitigate the anticompetitive effects that would result from CentraCare’s acquisition of St. Cloud Medical Group, P.A. (“SCMG”). The two largest providers of adult primary care, pediatric, and obstetric/gynecological (“OB/GYN”) services in St. Cloud, Minnesota. The Commission’s willingness to accept this Consent Agreement is premised on the fact that SCMG is a financially failing physician practice group that has been unable to find an alternative purchaser for the entire practice as well as concerns regarding disruptions to patient care and possible physician shortages.

On February 29, 2016, CentraCare entered a definitive agreement to acquire all outstanding shares of stock in SCMG (“the Acquisition”). Under the terms of the Acquisition, CentraCare is to directly employ all of SCMG’s physicians and advanced practice providers (“APPs”). The Commission’s Complaint alleges that the Acquisition, if consummated, would violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 18, by substantially lessening competition for the provision of adult primary care, pediatric, and OB/GYN services in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

As the Complaint alleges, however, SCMG has recently lost its sole remaining line of credit and appears unlikely to be able to improve its financial condition. Physicians are leaving the group, and there is compelling evidence that others will depart the practice (specifically the St. Cloud area) if the Acquisition is not consummated. Such physician departures would cause an immediate decline in revenues that could further destabilize the group. Although SCMG made a good-faith, but ultimately unsuccessful, multi-year effort to find an alternative buyer for the entire medical group, one local provider has recently expressed interest in employing a subset of the group, and other smaller, independent practices in the St. Cloud area have indicated that they also would consider hiring some SCMG physicians.

In light of this interest, the proposed Consent Agreement is designed to facilitate former SCMG physicians finding alternate local employment by suspending enforcement of any non-compete provisions against any adult primary care, pediatric, or OB/GYN physician from SCMG to allow up to 14 such physicians to depart for another St. Cloud area practice. It also encourages the creation of new competitors and the strengthening of smaller competitors by requiring CentraCare to provide sizeable departure payments to the first five physicians who leave CentraCare either to create a new medical practice or to join a small third-party medical practice in the St. Cloud area.

The Consent Agreement includes an Order to Suspend Enforcement of CentraCare Non-Competes and Maintain Assets, which is final immediately, and a Decision and Order, which is subject to the Commission’s final approval. The Consent Agreement has been placed on the public record for 30 days to receive comments from interested persons. Comments received during this period
will become part of the public record. After 30 days, the Commission will again review the Consent Agreement and the comments received and then decide whether it should withdraw from, modify, or make final the proposed Decision and Order.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the Consent Agreement. The analysis is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the Consent Agreement or to modify its terms in any way. Further, the Consent Agreement has been entered into for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by Respondent that it violated the law or that the facts alleged in the Complaint (other than jurisdictional facts) are true.

II. The Parties

CentraCare is a non-profit organization providing healthcare services through its owned hospitals, medical clinics, pharmacies, nursing homes, and home health operations throughout central Minnesota. CentraCare is the parent entity to CentraCare Clinic, a multi-specialty physician practice employing family medicine, internal medicine, pediatric, and OB/GYN physicians, among other specialists. CentraCare Clinic has 16 locations across central Minnesota, with five of those offices located within 20 miles of St. Cloud. CentraCare Clinic is the largest provider of adult primary care, pediatric, and OB/GYN services in the St. Cloud area, with approximately 102 adult primary care physicians, 28 pediatricians, and 25 OB/GYNs.

SCMG is a physician-owned multi-specialty medical clinic that operates four clinics in and around St. Cloud. SCMG’s 40 physicians mainly provide family medicine, pediatrics, and OB/GYN services, but SCMG also offers surgical, occupational medicine, and rehabilitation services. SCMG also employs approximately 20 APPs.

III. The Complaint

The Complaint alleges that the proposed Acquisition will substantially increase CentraCare’s market share in the St. Cloud area for the provision of adult primary care, pediatric, and OB/GYN services to commercially insured patients. According to the Complaint, by eliminating SCMG as a potential alternative in the St. Cloud area, the Acquisition likely will increase CentraCare’s bargaining power vis-à-vis commercial health plans, allowing CentraCare to increase reimbursement rates and to secure more favorable terms. In addition, the Complaint alleges that the Acquisition likely will result in the loss of non-price competition between CentraCare and SCMG that currently results in quality and service benefits to patients. The Complaint further alleges that competition eliminated by the Acquisition is unlikely to be sufficiently replaced in a timely manner by other providers entering the market. The Complaint recognizes, however, that SCMG is unlikely to survive on its own, and that, despite a good-faith search, it has not identified an alternative buyer for the entire group.

IV. The Consent Agreement

The goal of the Consent Agreement is to mitigate the competitive effects of the Acquisition by preserving, to the extent possible, competition for adult primary care, pediatric, and OB/GYN physicians in the St. Cloud area. At least one local provider may be a viable alternative purchaser to CentraCare for a portion of the practice in that they have the capacity and the desire to employ some SCMG physicians. Likewise, some SCMG physicians appear interested in these opportunities. Those parties need additional time to pursue such an arrangement, and other interested local providers looking to add physicians may be identified during this time as well.

The Commission believes that the Consent Agreement presents the best opportunity to keep the SCMG physicians in the St. Cloud market, ensuring ongoing access to care and minimal disruption for St. Cloud area patients, while allowing local competitive alternatives to CentraCare for the relevant physician services to expand. The Consent Agreement will allow current SCMG physicians to accept alternative local employment opportunities post-acquisition without the risk of violating non-compete provisions in their employment contracts.

Specifically, the Consent Agreement provides that following the issuance of a final Decision and Order and during the 90-day First Release Period, former SCMG physicians can terminate their employment with CentraCare without penalty if the physician:

(1) Submits notice of an intention to terminate employment with CentraCare to a monitor who has been appointed by the Commission to assist in implementing the Consent Agreement in a manner that assures each physician’s confidentiality;

(2) States the intention to continue to practice in the St. Cloud area for at least two years;

(3) Is among the first 14 physicians to submit a notice to terminate employment; and

(4) Leaves employment with CentraCare within 60 days of CentraCare receiving notice from the monitor.

CentraCare may request that the First Release Period be terminated as soon as the monitor has determined that 14 physicians have met the requirements to terminate.

If, at the end of the First Release Period, fewer than eight physicians have notified the monitor of their intent to terminate employment, a Second Release Period will commence. During the Second Release Period, CentraCare must also suspend the non-compete agreements of legacy CentraCare adult primary care, pediatric, and OB/GYN physicians (that is, those who did not come from SCMG) so that these physicians may explore and accept alternate employment opportunities in the St. Cloud area. The Second Release Period will end as soon as the monitor has informed CentraCare that eight physicians have met the requirements to terminate without penalty.

To encourage the creation of new competitors and strengthening of smaller competitors, CentraCare also will deposit $500,000 into an escrow account to be awarded as $100,000 departure payments to the first five physicians who leave CentraCare either to create a new medical practice or to join a third-party medical practice that has five or fewer physicians in the St. Cloud area.

Paragraphs II and III describe the basic terms under which physicians may terminate their employment with CentraCare. They prohibit CentraCare from: (1) Enforcing any non-compete, non-solicitation, or non-interference provisions in their employment agreements; (2) Pursuing any breach of contract action for violation of any of these provisions; or (3) Taking any retaliatory action against any physician who either leaves under the terms of the Decision and Order or who decides not to leave after exploring other employment as allowed by the Decision and Order. The Decision and Order does not, however, require CentraCare to allow physicians to terminate their employment agreements in a manner other than that specified in the Decision and Order.

Paragraph IV includes a number of provisions to ensure that CentraCare will not take any actions to discourage physicians from exploring opportunities to leave CentraCare’s employment pursuant to the Decision and Order. In addition, Paragraph
IV.A.1.f prohibits ContraCare from soliciting the employment of any physician that has departed ContraCare pursuant to the Consent Orders for a period of two years.

Paragraph V requires ContraCare to give advanced notification for future acquisitions or employment contracts involving certain adult primary care, pediatrics, and OB/GYN services in the St. Cloud area for a period of three years.

Paragraph VI requires ContraCare during the First Release Period to facilitate and not interfere with the search for alternate St. Cloud area employment by former SCMG employees, such as APPs and nurses. Paragraph VI also prohibits ContraCare from attempting to re-hire those employees for a period of two years.

Paragraph VII specifies the rules governing the work of the monitor.

The remaining order provisions are standard reporting requirements to allow the Commission to monitor ongoing compliance with the provisions of the Decision and Order.

In addition to the Decision and Order, the Consent Agreement includes an Order to Suspend Enforcement of ContraCare’s Non-Compete and Maintain Assets that goes into effect immediately. The purposes of this Order are (1) to permit former SCMG physicians to explore alternative employment opportunities in the St. Cloud area; and (2) to maintain those assets and personnel from the SMCG to make the transition to a different practice as easy as possible.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark
Secretary.

Concurring Statement of Maureen K. Ohlhausen

I have reason to believe that ContraCare Health System’s (ContraCare) acquisition of St. Cloud Medical Group, P.A. (SCMG), if consummated, would violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 18, by substantially lessening competition for the provision of adult primary care, pediatric, and OB/GYN services in St. Cloud, Minnesota. I also believe the Consent Agreement, subject to final approval, represents the outcome most likely to minimize competitive harm and care disruption to the residents of the St. Cloud area. I write separately because, although it is a close determination, I do not believe SCMG meets the stringent failing firm criteria set forth in the Horizontal Merger Guidelines and case law.

Because of SCMG’s financial challenges and facts unique to the SCMG practice structure and management, physicians are leaving the group, and compelling evidence indicates that, absent the acquisition, additional physicians plan to leave the group and possibly the area. This would diminish the competitive significance of SCMG and create potential disruptions to care and possible physician shortages in the St. Cloud area. These circumstances raise serious concerns about the likelihood that the Commission will be able to preserve competition and access to care for patients if it were to prevail in its challenge.

Given this difficult scenario, I agree with my colleagues that the Consent Agreement presents the best opportunity to keep the SCMG physicians in the market, ensure ongoing access to care and minimal disruption for area patients, and permit the expanded local competitive alternatives to ContraCare for the relevant physician services. Accordingly, I support the Consent Agreement on the basis that it is in the public interest.

[FR Doc. 2016–24879 Filed 10–13–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30Day–17–16AWK]

Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The notice for the proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address any of the following: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses; and (e) Assess information collection costs.

To request additional information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plan and instruments, call (404) 639–7570 or send an email to omb@cdc.gov. Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the items contained in this notice should be directed to the Attention: CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 or by fax to (202) 395–5806. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Survey of Surveillance Records of Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus from 1960 to Present—New—National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

The Zika virus response necessitates the collection of county and sub-county level records for Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus, the vectors of Zika virus. This information will be used to update species distribution maps for the United States and to develop a model aimed at identifying where these vectors can survive and reproduce. CDC is seeking a six-month OMB clearance to collect information.

In February, 2016, OMB issued emergency clearance for a county-level survey of vector surveillance records (OMB Control No. 0920–1101, expiration date 8/31/2016). The previous survey aimed to describe the current reported distribution of the Zika virus vectors Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus. The survey revealed that we are lacking records from recent years of both species from areas where we expect to find Zika vectors based on