



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1981

AT
202-633-2016

The Department of Justice filed a proposed final judgment Wednesday that would terminate its civil antitrust suit against Crown Oil Corporation, Pan Pacific Commodities and Granex Corporation, U.S.A.

Attorney General William French Smith said the proposed decree, which was filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, will become final upon approval by the court.

William F. Baxter, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said the civil suit, which was filed on February 17, 1981, alleged that the defendants violated Section 1 of the Sherman Act by conspiring to fix the price of coconut oil by creating an artificial shortage.

The proposed decree will enjoin the defendants from conspiring to fix prices of coconut oil, and from conspiring to create an artificial shortage of coconut oil in the United States. The defendants will also be prohibited from communicating about prices with other importers or sellers of coconut oil.

In accordance with the Antitrust Procedures and Penalties Act of 1974, a competitive impact statement regarding the decree has been filed with the court. Copies of this statement and of the proposed decree are available on request in the Legal Procedures Unit, Room 7416, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530. They are also available for inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles.

(MORE)

Comments to the Department and to the court regarding the decree are invited from members of the public within the next 60 days. They should be addressed to Leon W. Weidman, Acting Chief, Los Angeles Field Office, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, 3101 Federal Building, 300 North Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

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