



Department of Justice

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The Department of Justice filed an antitrust suit today against Waste Management, Inc. (WMI) of Oak Brook, Illinois, and Industrial Disposal Service Company, Inc. (IDS) of San Antonio, Texas, challenging the proposed acquisition of IDS by WMI. A consent decree settling the suit also was filed.

Charles F. Rule, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said that the complaint, filed in U.S. District Court in San Antonio, Texas, alleged that the proposed acquisition would prove anticompetitive in the Bexar County, Texas, market for commercial containerized solid waste hauling service. Commercial containerized waste hauling service is the familiar dumpster service used by most commercial customers, such as restaurants, office buildings, and stores.

Under the consent decree, WMI agreed to sell its existing San Antonio waste hauling operation and its rights in an all-purpose landfill permit and site (Buffalo Valley) by March 1, 1989, or a trustee will be appointed to divest these assets. WMI also must provide an interim guaranteed disposal rate for the purchaser of the divested hauling operation.

Rule said, "The decree will assure that the acquisition of IDS by WMI will not harm consumers of this important hauling

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service. The divestiture required will create an independent waste hauling competitor in Bexar County, maintaining the same number of competitors as existed before the acquisition."

In 1986 WMI had total revenues of over \$2 billion from solid waste hauling and disposal and approximately \$5 million in revenues from the San Antonio area in 1987. IDS had revenues of over \$17.5 million at the end of its June 1987 fiscal year. In 1987 WMI accounted for approximately 16 percent, and IDS 48 percent, of commercial containerized hauling revenues in Bexar County.

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