Public Comments and Plaintiff's Response, United States of America vs. Aluminum Company of America and Alumax Inc.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Antitrust Procedures and Penalties Act, 15 U.S.C. §16(b)-(h), that the Public Comments and Plaintiff's Response have been filed with the United States District Court of the District of Columbia in United States v. Aluminum Company of America and Alumax, Inc., Civ. Action No. 9801497 (PLF).

On June 15, 1998, the United States filed a civil antitrust Complaint alleging that the proposed acquisition of Alumax Inc. ("Alumax") by Aluminum Company of America ("Alcoa") would violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. § 18. The Complaint alleged that Alumax and Alcoa are the two largest of the three producers of aluminum cast plate ("cast plate") in the world. Alcoa's proposed acquisition of Alumax would have combined under single ownership almost 90% of the cast plate manufacturing business in the world. As a result, the proposed acquisition would substantially lessen competition in the manufacture and sale of cast plate world wide in violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act.

Public comment was invited within the statutory 60-day comment period. The one comment received, and the response thereto, is hereby published in the Federal Register and filed with the Court. Copies of these materials may be obtained on request and payment of a copying fee.

Constance K. Robinson Director of Operations, Antitrust Division