



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

AUG 21 2009

Office of the Director  
Bureau of Competition

William Randolph Smith  
Crowell & Moring LLP  
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004-2595

Re: The proposed acquisition by Arch Coal, Inc. of Jacobs Ranch LLC from Rio Tinto plc, File No. 0910078

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition has been conducting a non-public investigation to determine whether the proposed acquisition by Arch Coal, Inc. of Jacobs Ranch LLC from Rio Tinto plc may violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act or Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

Upon further review of this matter, it now appears that no additional action is warranted by the Commission at this time. Accordingly, pursuant to authority delegated by the Commission, the investigation has been closed. This action is not to be construed as a determination that a violation may not have occurred, just as the pendency of an investigation should not be construed as a determination that a violation has occurred. The Commission reserves the right to take such further action as the public interest may require.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Feinstein".

Richard Feinstein  
Director