

Good afternoon FTC Staff:

My name is Aaron Reeves and currently I am the Assistant Store Manager at P&C/Tops Foods located on [Redacted] Pennsylvania. This is one of the stores that is effected by the recent decision by the commission.

Before the Tops Markets acquisition of Penn Traffic retail stores, there where two P&C Food stores, Aldi's, both Walmart and Kmart with expanded grocery sections, Dollar stores with grocery items, about 13 Dandy Mini Marts in the area, Ted Clarke's Busy Market, and Tops Friendly Market. Please note once again, that all of these companies that operate in the Sayre area all were in place before the Tops acquisition of the Penn Traffic stores.

Approximately 15 years ago, there was the purchase, by the Penn Traffic Company, of several Acme stores. One of the purchase Acme stores was located in Sayre, the present P&C/Tops Foods store at the above mentioned address. Given, all of the competition that was already in the area at the time, which is noted above minus Aldis, when this transaction was complete, there was no decision rendering against the transaction, why would this be any different?

Now, 15 years later the Sayre area now has even more competition that ever before and will only continue to grow. Since that time in 1995, we now have approximately three Dollar Generals, one Family Dollar, expanded grocery sections in K-mart and Wal-Mart, Rite Aid and CVS have been selling grocery items, and Aldi's has came to town.

To that end, allowing Tops Markets to operate two stores in the Sayre area can only expand the market to outside competition to come in and make the Sayre area more competitive and attractive for new companies to come in. The more competition that comes into this area will only help the local economy, spur job creation, help gain/obtain tax revenue for all stages of the local governments, and so forth. Also, since we are prime location for the Marcellus Schale drilling, our population has increased drastically over the months.

Please I urge you to please visit the markets that we operate in, visit with our customers, and talk to our staffs on what a decision should be about...the people of America that use the stores to their benefit to shop and spend their dollars at. Ultimately, the consumer is the one that dictates the final decision on competition. Furthermore, please consider the impact on the families of the employees of the store(s) as some may have to seek other jobs or loose salary or even pay more for Healthcare to start over with another company for a third time in a given year.

Thank you for your time and concern in this situation.

Aaron Reeves
Assistant Store Manager/Operations Manager