withdraw from the agreements or make final the order contained in the agreement.

The Commission's Complaint charges that on or about May 22, 1996, NGC agreed to acquire certain assets owned by Chevron's subsidiary, Chevron U.S.A. Inc. (''Chevron USA''). Among the Chevron assets that NGC agreed to acquire is the fractionation facility at Mont Belvieu, Texas operated by the Warren Petroleum Company division (''Warren'') of Chevron USA. The Commission has reason to believe that the acquisition, as well as the agreement to enter into the acquisition, may have anticompetitive effects and be in violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

According to the Commission's Complaint, NGC and Chevron are direct competitors in the market for the fractionation of natural gas liquids at Mont Belvieu, Texas. The Complaint alleges that this market is highly concentrated and entry is difficult or unlikely. The Commission was concerned that the acquisition may reduce competition in the Mont Belvieu fractionation market, by eliminating the direct competition between NGC and Chevron, by increasing the likelihood that NGC will unilaterally exercise market power, and by increasing the likelihood of, or facilitating, collusive or coordinated interaction among the few remaining significant competitors. Consequently, the acquisition may lead to anticompetitive increases in fractionation prices.

Typically, in the purification of natural gas (i.e., methane), a liquefied stream of certain heavier hydrocarbon compounds, called raw mix natural gas liquids, is also produced. Fractionation is the process of separating raw mix natural gas liquids into certain discrete, highly-marketable chemical commodities (i.e., ethane, propane, ethane-propane mix, iso-butane, normal-butane and natural gasoline), called natural gas liquids specification products. Natural gas liquids specification products are ultimately used in the manufacture of petrochemicals, in the refining of gasoline, and as bottled fuel, among other uses.

The Commission's investigation of this matter found potential anticompetitive problems for producers of raw mix who obtain fractionation services at Mont Belvieu, Texas. Mont Belvieu is the nation's hub for the fractionation of raw mix natural gas liquids and the subsequent sale of fractionated specification products. Producers of raw mix natural gas liquids throughout much of Texas, New Mexico, western Wyoming and western Colorado have no good alternative to Mont Belvieu for their fractionation needs. There are only a few facilities providing fractionation services in Mont Belvieu, among them are Chevron's Warren facility and two partially owned by NGC—Mont Belvieu I (''MB I'') and Gulf Coast Fractionators (''GCF'').

The agreement containing consent order is designed to remedy the Commission's competitive concern about the acquisition. Under the terms of the proposed order, NGC must divest its interest in MB I within six months to a purchaser approved by the Commission. If NGC fails to complete the divestiture within the six months, the Commission may appoint a trustee to undertake the task. With respect to GCF, NGC is required to give up its management role and to refrain from participating in future decisions on pricing or capital expansion. Since NGC will be permitted to retain its minority interest in GCF, after the acquisition NGC will still own interests in two fractionation facilities. However, NGC will have little incentive to operate Warren in a less-than-competitive manner in the expectation of benefitting from higher prices at GCF. Because most of GCF's capacity is already accounted for by long-term contracts at fixed formula prices and by NGC's captive production, GCF will have little opportunity to raise its prices. The proposed divestitures of MB I and of management responsibility at GCF will actually increase from three to four the number of plant operators in this market, thus increasing the number of independent decision makers.

To minimize the possibility of competitive harm in the period prior to the divestiture, the proposed order requires that NGC terminate all its commercial and facility operator activities at both MB I and GCF within six months. In the interim, NGC must transfer all its commercial operator activities at both MB I and GCF to third parties within 30 days or assign those activities to NGC employees who would then serve under the terms of a Hold Separate Agreement designed to ensure that MB I and GCF function as independent, competitive businesses. To further ensure that MB I and GCF function independently, the proposed order requires NGC to transfer all its facility operator activities at MB I to a third party within 120 days or assign those activities to employees who would then serve under this Hold Separate Agreement.

Furthermore, the proposed order requires that NGC not prevent, impede or interfere with efforts by the successor operators at MB I and GCF from hiring the current NGC employees who perform any of the commercial or facility operator duties at the two plants. The proposed order also requires that, NGC in its ongoing role as a partner in GCF: (i) Obtain an amendment to the GCF partnership agreement allowing any two partners (with at least 50% ownership interest in GCF) to undertake a capacity expansion of GCF; and (ii) abstain from participation in any matter involving the terms of fractionation service contracts offered to third-party customers. For a period of ten (10) years from the date that the order becomes final, the order would require prior Commission notification before NGC could acquire any interest in, or operatorship of, an existing fractionation facility within ten (10) miles of Mont Belvieu, Texas.

The purpose of this analysis is to invite public comment concerning the consent order. This analysis is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and order or to modify their terms in any way.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–23558 Filed 9–13–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Center for Environmental Health Meeting

The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following meeting.

Name: Finalization of the ''Interim Shipbuilding Construction Specifications for Passenger Vessels Destined to Call on U.S. Ports'' (Construction Specifications) and the ''Interim Recommendations to Minimize Transmission of Legionnaires' Disease from Whirlpool Spas on Cruise Ships'' (Spa Guidelines). Public meeting between CDC and the cruise ship industry, private consultants, and other interested parties.

Time and Date: 9 a.m.–12 noon, September 26, 1996.

Place: Four Points Hotel, 1850 Cotillion Drive, Atlanta, Georgia 30338, telephone 770/394–5000, fax 770/394–5114. When making reservations, mention that you are attending the CDC Vessel Sanitation Program (VSP) meeting to secure the group rate.

Directions: From I-285 East, Exit 22, Chamblee-Dunwoody Road. Turn left, cross

the bridge, then turn right; the hotel is on the left. From I–285 West, Exit 22, Chamblee-Dunwoody Road, continue through the intersection; the hotel is approximately one mile on the right.

Status: Open to the public for participation, comment, or observation, limited only by the space available. The meeting room accommodates approximately 50 people.

Purpose: The VSP of CDC is responsible for overseeing the public health concerns on passenger cruise ships that enter the United States from foreign ports. These public health responsibilities include reviewing plans for new ships or remodeling old ships, inspecting ships while they are under construction, and monitoring the installation of facilities and equipment. The VSP is also responsible for ensuring that food service, portable water treatment, and care and maintenance of the recreational spas and pools are handled in accordance with the guidelines in the ''VSP Operations Manual.''

This meeting is one in a series on the ''Construction Specifications'' and the ''Spa Guidelines.'' The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the completed versions of the documents for final review and comments by the cruise ship industry and other interested parties.

Matters to be Discussed: Agenda items will include the final discussion on comments and suggested changes made by the cruise ship industry and other interested parties at the June 3, 1996, public meeting.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

For 15 days after the meeting, through October 11, 1996, the official record of the meeting will remain open so that additional material or comments may be submitted and made a part of the record.

Contact Person for More Information: Donald W. Turner, Chief, VSP, NCEH, CDC, 1015 North America Way, Room 107, Miami, Florida 33132, telephone 305/536–4307.

Dated: September 10, 1996.

Nancy C. Hirsch,

Acting Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 96–23590 Filed 9–13–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–18–M

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 96N–0169]

Midland County Hospital District; Revocation of U.S. License No. 961

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the revocation of the establishment license (U.S. License No. 961) and the product licenses issued to Midland County Hospital District, now doing business as Permian Basin Regional Center, for the manufacture of Red Blood Cells, Plasma, and Platelets. In a letter to FDA dated November 1, 1995, the firm voluntarily requested that its establishment and product licenses be revoked.

DATES: The revocation of the establishment license (U.S. License No. 961) and the product licenses became effective March 14, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Copies of letters from FDA and Midland County Hospital District may be seen at the Dockets Management Branch (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 12420 Parklawn Dr., rm. 1–23, Rockville, MD 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Annette A. Ragosta, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (HFM–630), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852–1448, 301–594–3074.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FDA conducted an inspection of Midland County Hospital District, 200 Airport Plaza, Midland, TX 79711–1650, from March 14 through April 11, 1995. The inspection also involved a concurrent investigation which included interviews with individuals knowledgeable about the firm's daily operations. The inspection and concurrent investigation revealed serious noncompliance with applicable standards and Federal regulations. Serious deficiencies were reported in interviews and observed by the investigators in several areas of the firm's operations. Deviations included, but were not limited to the following: (1) Failure to collect blood by aseptic methods in a sterile system to protect against contamination (21 CFR 640.4(f)) in that it was reported to our investigators that on numerous occasions employees broke the sterility barrier of blood containers and drained blood into vacutainer tubes or biohazard containers in order to conceal overbleeds; (2) failure to follow standard operating procedures for addressing adverse donor reactions (21 CFR 606.100(b)(9)) in that it was reported to our investigators that on several occasions employees continued to bleed donors while the donors were experiencing adverse reactions; and (3) failure to maintain records concurrently with the performance of each significant step in the collection, processing, storage, and distribution of each unit of blood and blood components so that all steps can be clearly traced (§ 606.160(a)(1) (21 CFR 606.160(a)(1))) in that: (a) important donor selection information, such as vital signs, answers to medical history and high risk behavior questions, and documentation of hemoglobin checks, was not obtained and recorded concurrently with each donor suitability determination; (b) it was reported to our investigators that on several occasions daily performance checks of equipment were not performed but the records were completed to indicate that these had been performed (§ 606.160(b)(5)(ii)); and (c) it was reported to our investigators that, on at least two occasions, maintenance records for the Cobe Spectra instrument were completed to give the appearance that maintenance had been performed, when in fact, it may not have been performed (§ 606.160(b)(7)(iv)).

FDA determined that these deviations from Federal regulations constituted a danger to public health warranting a suspension under 21 CFR 601.6(a). In a letter to Midland County Hospital District, dated April 20, 1995, FDA detailed the above-described violations and stated that the firm's management had not effectively fulfilled its responsibilities to exercise control in all matters relating to compliance and had not assured that personnel were adequately trained and had a thorough understanding of the procedures that they were to perform (21 CFR 600.10(a) and (b) and 606.20(a) and (b)). In the same letter, FDA suspended the firm's establishment and product licenses for the manufacture of Red Blood Cells, Plasma, and Platelets. In a letter dated November 1, 1995, Midland County Hospital District voluntarily requested that its licenses be revoked. The agency acknowledged the request for a voluntary revocation of the establishment and product licenses in a letter dated March 14, 1996.

The agency has placed copies of letters from FDA, dated April 20, 1995, and March 14, 1996, and a letter from Midland County Hospital District, dated November 1, 1995, on file under the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document in the Dockets Management Branch (address above). These documents are available for public examination in the Dockets Management Branch (address above) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Accordingly, under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262), 21 CFR 601.5, and under authority delegated to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs (21 CFR 5.10) and redelegated to the Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (21 CFR 5.68), the establishment license (U.S. License No. 961), and the product licenses for the manufacture of Red Blood Cells, Plasma, and Platelets, issued to Midland County Hospital District, Midland, TX, now doing business as Permian Basin Regional