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Domestic News

Shaanxi Province Takes Actions Against Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients Monopolies

On August 19, 2020, Health Commission of Shaanxi Province together with fifteen other departments jointly issued the *Plan on the Division of Work for Ensuring Supply and Stabilizing Prices of Drugs in Shortage by Shaanxi Province* (“**Plan**”). The Plan pointed out that the law enforcement against unlawful behaviors including monopolies of active pharmaceutical ingredients (“**APIs**”) shall be further strengthened. It is necessary to establish the coordination working mechanism among the departments of market regulation, public security, taxation and medical products regulation and carry out multi-department collaboration. The antitrust and price-related violations in connection with APIs and drugs will be tracked down and punished under the strictest scrutiny in accordance with laws. ([More](#))

China (Shandong) Free Trade Pilot Zone to Strengthen the Pilot Competition Policy

On August 18, 2020, according to Shandong Administration for Market Regulation’s website, the authority of Shandong Province recently issued the *Implementation Plan on Strengthening the Pilot Competition Policy in the China (Shandong) Free Trade Pilot Zone* (“**Plan**”). The Plan underlines that China (Shandong) Free Trade Pilot Zone will establish a relatively complete competition policy system and organizational supporting system by 2022. The Plan requires that provisions and practices which impede the fair competition in related fields shall be comprehensively cleaned up and abolished, and the fair competition review system shall be comprehensively implemented. It is necessary to strengthen and improve anti-monopoly law enforcement, achieve the normalization and extension of law enforcement, cultivate the culture and consciousness of competition in the whole society and promote the full and effective implementation of competition policies in China (Shandong) Free Trade Pilot Zone. ([More](#))

China (Shanghai) Free Trade Pilot Zone to Strengthen the Pilot Competition Policy

On August 17, 2020, Shanghai Administration for Market Regulation and other departments jointly issued the *Notice on Strengthening the Pilot Competition Policy in the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone Lin-Gang Special Area* (“**Notice**”). The Notice focuses on the pilot review of concentration of undertakings. It is necessary to further simplify the review process for the concentration of undertakings in the strategic emerging industries including integrated circuits, artificial intelligence, biomedicines, aeronautics and space, new-energy automobiles and high-end intelligent equipment, facilitate the notification process and support the expansion and development of the strategic emerging industries and key enterprises in Shanghai and Lin-gang Special Area. ([More](#))

Hainan Free Trade Port to Establish an Open and Competitive Electric Power Market System

On August 14, 2020, Hainan Free Trade Port WeChat official account released the *Hainan Comprehensive Reform Plan of Energy Industries* (“**Plan**”) that focuses on the establishment of an open and competitive electric power market system. The Plan underlines that a mechanism for the formation and allocation on prices deregulation of electric power auxiliary services shall be established. It is necessary to strengthen the price supervision over the natural monopoly sectors of electricity, oil and gas, accelerate the liberalization of participation in market by commercial electric power undertakings, gradually liberalize the price regulation of natural gas in non-residential use, open the sectors of natural gas and elec-

tricity to various types of capital equally, ease market access, and promote the fair opening of oil and gas pipe network and power grids to third parties without discrimination. ([More](#))

Overseas News

DOJ Antitrust Division Announces Re-Organization of the Civil Enforcement Program

On August 20, 2020, The Department of Justice (“DOJ”) Antitrust Division announced that it is creating the Office of Decree Enforcement and Compliance and a Civil Conduct Task Force. The former will have primary responsibility for enforcing judgments and consent decrees in civil matters. The latter will work across the civil sections and field offices to identify conduct investigations that require additional focus and resources. Additionally, the Antitrust Division will redistribute matters among its six civil sections in order to build expertise based on current trends in the economy. ([More](#))

European Commission Conditionally Approves Mastercard’s Acquisition of Nets’ Account-to-Account Payment Business

On August 17, 2020, The European Commission announced that it had approved the proposed acquisition of Nets A/S’s account-to-account payment business by Mastercard. The decision was conditional on the transfer of a license for Nets A/S’s “Realtime 24/7” technology for account-to-account core infrastructure services as well as of the relevant personnel and other assets. During the investigation, Mastercard and Nets committed to transfer to a suitable purchaser a global license of the technology above with all necessary personnel and services. The commitments fully addressed the European Commission’s competition concerns and it concluded that the transaction, as modified by the commitments, no longer raises competition concerns in the EEA. ([More](#))

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