



**Determination No. M/04/070 of the Competition Authority, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2004, under Section 21 of the Competition Act, 2002**

**Notification No. M/04/070 – Proposed acquisition by The Rice Company of Albatros Feeds Limited**

**Introduction**

1. On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004 the Competition Authority, in accordance with Section 18 (1) of the Competition Act, 2002 (“the Act”) was notified, on a mandatory basis of a proposal whereby The Rice Company (“TRC”) would acquire Albatros Feeds Limited (“AFL”).

**The Parties**

2. TRC is a privately held corporation headquartered in Roseville, California, USA. TRC specialises in the sourcing and delivering of raw and processed agricultural commodities worldwide. It owns and utilises processing plants in North America, Central America, Europe and Asia. It does not have any offices on the island of Ireland. TRC has two customers on the island of Ireland, one of which is AFL. TRC’s sales in Ireland are less than €100,000.
3. AFL is an importer and supplier of raw materials to the animal feed industry in Ireland. It supplies its feed constituents to a base of 150 customers, primarily the major co-operatives and independent compounders. AFL imports approximately 80% of the products it supplies, primarily into four ports. AFL’s head office is located at The Eden Centre, Grange Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin but it also maintains offices at Bandon, Co. Cork and Birr Co. Offaly.

**Analysis**

4. There is no overlap in the activities of the parties. AFL operates at a different level of the supply chain than TRC as it is not involved in manufacturing of animal feed. Therefore the transaction does not give rise to any competitive concerns.



**The Competition Authority**  
An tÚdarás Iomaíochta

### **Determination**

The Competition Authority, in accordance with Section 21(2) of the Competition Act, 2002, has determined that, in its opinion, the result of the proposed acquisition by The Rice Company of Albatros Feeds Limited will not be to substantially lessen competition in markets for goods and services in the State and, accordingly, that the acquisition may be put into effect.

**For the Competition Authority**

**Edward Henneberry**  
**Member of the Competition Authority**