



**The Competition Authority**

An tÚdarás Iomaíochta

## **MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT** **6 APRIL 2011**

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### **Competition Authority clears the acquisition of Northern Foods by Boparan**

The Competition Authority has cleared the proposed acquisition of Northern Foods plc by BH Acquisitions Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Boparan Holdings Limited. The transaction was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 7 March 2011.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction will not lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any markets for goods or services in the State. The Authority will publish a public version of its determination on its website ([www.tca.ie](http://www.tca.ie)) no later than 5 June 2011 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

#### **Notes**

Boparan Holdings Limited, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Five Star Fish, has a service arrangement with Northern Foods plc to supply it with coated and breaded frozen fish products which are then sold in the State by Northern Foods plc under the *Donegal Catch* brand. Boparan Holdings Limited, through another wholly-owned subsidiary, 2 Sisters Food Group, supplies both primary and processed chicken food products in the State. 2 Sisters Food Group supplies Northern Foods plc with primary chicken products, which the latter uses as an ingredient in its range of chilled ready meals, pizzas, sandwich fillers, and salads.

Northern Foods plc has three divisions: Chilled, Frozen, and Bakery. The Chilled division manufactures own-label "Food to Go" products and chilled ready meals products which it sells to retailers in the State. The Frozen division manufactures a range of frozen branded goods including frozen fish (*Donegal Catch*), pizzas (*Goodfellas*, *San Marco*, *Green Isle*), pies (*Hollands and McDougalls*), and vegetables (*Green Isle*). The Bakery division manufactures biscuits (*Fox's*) and Christmas puddings (*Matthew Walker*).

#### **For further information contact:**

**Clodagh Coffey**, Communications Manager, The Competition Authority  
Tel: 01 8045406                      Mobile: 087 915 5406                      email: [cc@tca.ie](mailto:cc@tca.ie)