

Amplify Snack Brands, INC
Form SC14D9C
December 18, 2017

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14D-9

SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT

UNDER SECTION 14(d)(4) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Amplify Snack Brands, Inc.

(Name of Subject Company)

Amplify Snack Brands, Inc.

(Name of Persons Filing Statement)

Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share

(Title of Class of Securities)

03211L102

(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

Thomas C. Ennis

President and Chief Executive Officer

500 West 5th Street, Suite 1350

Austin, TX 78701

(512) 600-9893

(Name, Address and Telephone Number, including area code, of Agent For Service)

With copies to:

James A. Matarese, Esq.

Bradley C. Weber, Esq.

Andrew H. Goodman, Esq.

Goodwin Procter LLP

100 Northern Avenue

Boston, MA 02210

(617) 570-1000

**(Name, address, and telephone numbers of person authorized to receive notices and communications
on behalf of the persons filing statement)**

Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

This Schedule 14D-9 filing contains the following documents relating to the proposed acquisition of Amplify Snack Brands, Inc., a Delaware corporation (Amplify or the Company) by The Hershey Company, a Delaware corporation (Parent), and Alphabet Merger Sub Inc., a Delaware corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent (Acquisition Sub), pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of December 17, 2017, by and among the Company, Parent and Acquisition Sub:

Exhibit 99.1: Letter to Employees

Forward Looking Statements

This communication may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Words such as anticipates, estimates, expects, projects, forecasts, intends, plans, will, believes and words and terms of similar substance used in connection with any discussion of the proposed transaction identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based on management's current expectations and beliefs about future events. As with any projection or forecast, they are inherently susceptible to uncertainty and changes in circumstances. Except as required by law, we are under no obligation to, and expressly disclaim any obligation to, update or alter any forward-looking statements whether as a result of such changes, new information, subsequent events or otherwise. Various factors could adversely affect our operations, business or financial results in the future and cause our actual results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements, including the risks and uncertainties discussed in the Company's filings with the SEC, in particular the factors discussed in detail in the Risk Factors sections contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2017, the tender offer documents to be filed by Parent and Acquisition Sub, and the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement to be filed by the Company, as well as, among other things: (1) the ability to obtain requisite regulatory approvals required to complete the proposed transaction with Parent, (2) the satisfaction of the conditions to the consummation of the proposed transaction, (3) the timing of the completion of the proposed transaction, (4) the potential impact of the announcement or consummation of the proposed transaction on our relationships, including with employees, suppliers and customers, and (5) the risk that stockholder litigation in connection with the proposed transaction may result in significant costs of defense, indemnification and liability.

Additional Information and Where to Find It

The tender offer referred to in this document has not yet commenced. This communication is for informational purposes only and is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell shares, nor is it a substitute for the tender offer materials that Parent and its acquisition subsidiary will file with the SEC upon commencement of the tender offer. At the time the tender offer is commenced, Parent and its acquisition subsidiary will cause to be filed a tender offer statement on Schedule TO with the SEC, and the Company will file a solicitation/recommendation statement on Schedule 14D-9 with respect to the tender offer. THE TENDER OFFER STATEMENT (INCLUDING AN OFFER TO PURCHASE, A RELATED LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL AND OTHER OFFER DOCUMENTS) AND THE SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY AND CONSIDERED BY THE COMPANY'S STOCKHOLDERS BEFORE ANY DECISION IS MADE WITH RESPECT TO THE TENDER OFFER. Both the tender offer statement and the solicitation/recommendation statement will be mailed to the Company's stockholders free of charge. A free copy of the tender offer statement and the solicitation/recommendation statement will also be made available to all stockholders of the Company by accessing Amplify Snack Brands, Inc.'s website at www.amplifysnackbrands.com or upon written request to Amplify Snack Brands, Inc., 500 W. 5th Street, Suite 1350, Austin, TX 78701. In addition, the tender offer statement and the solicitation/recommendation statement (and all other documents filed with the SEC) will be available at no charge on the SEC's website: www.sec.gov, upon filing with the SEC. THE COMPANY'S STOCKHOLDERS ARE ADVISED TO READ THE SCHEDULE TO AND THE SCHEDULE 14D-9, AS EACH MAY BE AMENDED OR SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME, AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BEFORE THEY MAKE ANY DECISION WITH RESPECT TO THE TENDER OFFER, BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION AND THE PARTIES THERETO.