

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 497J

Certification of no change in definitive materials under paragraph (j) of Securities Act Rule 497

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FIRST TRUST SPECIAL SITUATIONS TRUST SERIES 171

CIK: **1021987** | State of Incorporation: **IL**
Type: **497J** | Act: **33** | File No.: **333-13933** | Film No.: **1521948**

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February 1, 2001

Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20549-1004

Attn: Filing Desk, Stop 1-4

Re: The First Trust Special Situations Trust 171
(SEC File No. 333-13933) (CIK No. 1021987)

Ladies/Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Rule 497(j) of Regulation C under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") this letter serves to certify that the most recent post effective amendment to the registration statement on Form S-6 for the above captioned Trust does not differ from that which would have been filed pursuant to Rule 497(b) of the Securities Act. Post effective Amendment No. 4, which was the most recent post effective Amendment to the Registration Statement, was filed electronically with the Commission on January 31, 2001.

Very truly yours,

NIKE SECURITIES L.P.