Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.4094 — INEOS/BP Dormagen)

(2006/C 25/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 24 January 2006, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 3(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (1) by which the undertaking INEOS Group Limited (INEOS, UK) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of BP Ethylene Oxide/Ethylene Glycol Business (BP Dormagen, UK) controlled by British Petroleum Group by way of purchase of shares. The current transaction is a result of a call option exercised by INEOS for the remaining part of Innovene (BP Dormagen).

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
   — for undertaking INEOS: manufacturing of speciality and intermediate chemicals;
   — for undertaking BP Dormagen: manufacturing of ethylene, ethylene oxide and ethylene glycols.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.4094 — INEOS/BP Dormagen, to the following address:

European Commission
Competition DG
Merger Registry
J-70
B-1049 Brussels