



C/2026/1638

12.3.2026

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.12145 – CLARIOS / ECOBAT GERMANY / ECOBAT AUSTRIA)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(C/2026/1638)

1. On 4 March 2026, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- Clarios Germany Holding GmbH ('Clarios', Germany), ultimately controlled by Brookfield Corporation (Canada),
- ECOBAT Resources Germany GmbH ('EcoBat Germany', Germany) and ECOBAT Resources Austria GmbH ('EcoBat Austria', Austria), both controlled by Eco-Bat B.V. (Netherlands). EcoBat Germany and EcoBat Austria are collectively referred to as the 'Target Companies'.

Clarios will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the Target Companies.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:

- Clarios is mainly active in the manufacture and sale of automotive (lead-acid) batteries. To support these activities, Clarios recycles scrap lead-acid batteries to extract lead and other by-products, which are then used solely internally to produce batteries,
- The Target Companies are producers of secondary lead, including lead metal alloys, as well as other by-products recovered during their lead smelting activities (in particular polypropylene). They operate two facilities in Germany (located in Braubach and in Freiberg) and one facility in Austria (located in Arnoldstein).

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

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

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.12145 – CLARIOS / ECOBAT GERMANY / ECOBAT AUSTRIA

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
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⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').