Order of the President of the Court of First Instance of 29 October 2009 – Novácke chemické závody v Commission

(Case T-352/09 R)

(Interim measures — Competition — Commission decision imposing a fine — Bank guarantee — Application for suspension of enforcement of a measure — Lack of urgency)

- 1. Application for interim measures Suspension of operation of a measure Interim measures — Conditions for granting — Prima facie case — Urgency — Cumulative nature — Balancing of all the interests involved — Order of examination and method of verification — Discretion of the court hearing the application for interim relief (Arts 225(1) EC, 242 EC and 243 EC; Rules of Procedure of the Court of First Instance, Art. 104(2)) (see paras 12-15)
- 2. Application for interim measures Suspension of operation of a measure Interim measures — Conditions for granting — Urgency — Serious and irreparable damage — Situation which could jeopardise the existence of the applicant company — Damage having already arisen at the time of the adoption of the decision by the court hearing the application for interim measures — Lack of urgency (Arts 242 EC and 243 EC; Rules of Procedure of the Court of First Instance, Art. 104(2)) (see paras 38-44)
- 3. Application for interim measures Suspension of operation of a measure Interim measures — Conditions for granting — Urgency — Serious and irreparable damage — Applicant company losing an opportunity for redress — Purely hypothetical damage depending on the occurrence of future and uncertain events — Lack of urgency (Arts 242 EC and 243 EC; Rules of Procedure of the Court of First Instance, Art. 104(2)) (see paras 49-51)
- 4. Application for interim measures Interim measures Exemption from the obligation to constitute a bank guarantee as a condition for fine not being recovered immediately Conditions for granting Exceptional circumstances Assessment having regard to the situation of the group to which the applicant company belongs Burden of proof (Art. 243 EC; Rules of Procedure of the Court of First Instance, Art. 104(2)) (see paras 52-59)
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Re:

APPLICATION for suspension of enforcement of the Commission decision of 22 July 2009 relating to a proceeding under Article 81 EC and Article 53 of the EEA Agreement (Case COMP/39.396 — Calcium carbide and magnesium-based reagents for the steel and gas industries), in so far as it concerns the applicant.

Operative part

- 1. The application for interim measures is dismissed.
- 2. Costs are reserved.