

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case No COMP/M.3410 — TOTAL/GDF)

(2004/C 215/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 20 August 2004, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertaking Total S.A. ('Total', France) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of parts of the undertaking Gaz de France ('GDF', France) by way of purchase of shares and purchase of assets.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Total: exploration, production, transport, storage and sale of oil and natural gas,
- for the parts of GDF bought by Total: transport and storage facilities of natural gas in the South-West of France and transfer of a set of eligible customers in the South-West and the Centre of France.

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 (fax No +32/2/2964301 or 2967244) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.3410 — Total/GDF, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition,
Merger Registry
J-70
B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.