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(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPETITION
POLICY

COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.4798 — BP/Associated British Foods/JV)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2007/C 182/10)

1. On 25 July 2007, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which BP plc ('BP', United Kingdom) and Associated British Foods Plc ('ABF', United Kingdom) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the newly created Vivergo Fuels Limited ('Vivergo', United Kingdom) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for BP: energy company, active on a world wide level in the exploration, development and production of oil and gas, in the refining, manufacturing and marketing of oil products and petrochemicals and in the development of renewable energies,
- for ABF: diversified food, ingredients and retail company, active on a world wide level.

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. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽²⁾ it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

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 ((32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.4798 — BP/Associated British Foods/JV, 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.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.