

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.4870 — EDF EN/Alcofinance/Alcogroup JV)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2007/C 224/03)

1. On 14 September 2007, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which EDF Energie Nouvelles ('EDF EN', France) belonging to the group EDF (France) and Alcofinance (Belgium) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of Alcogroup SA ('Alcogroup', Belgium), a newly created joint venture, by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- EDF: active in the generation, transmission, distribution, supply, and trade of electricity and related services, mainly in France but with large presence also across the EEA,
- EDF EN: production of electricity from renewable energy sources, in particular wind power, hydro power, biomass and solar energy,
- Alcofinance: production, distribution and sale of ethanol,
- Alcogroup: production, distribution and sale of ethanol.

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.4870 — EDF EN/Alcofinance/Alcogroup 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.