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(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.7291 — Versalis / Novamont)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2014/C 260/11)

1. On 1 August 2014, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 and following a referral pursuant to Article 4(5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004⁽¹⁾ by which the undertakings Versalis S.p.A. ('Versalis', Italy), controlled by ENI S.p.A. ('ENI', Italy), and Novamont S.p.A. ('Novamont', Italy) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and Article 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Versalis is active in the production and marketing of a wide portfolio of petrochemical products, as well as the sale of licences relating to its technologies and know-how. Versalis is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ENI, an Italian multinational oil and gas company, which operates in a large number of fields including nuclear power, energy, chemicals, plastics and refining,
- Novamont is an Italian company active in the production of bioplastics based on bioproducts and biodegradable polymers totally or partially obtained from renewable resources.

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. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under the 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 22964301), by e-mail to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference number M.7291 — Versalis / Novamont, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.