Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9969 – VEOLIA / SUEZ)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2021/C 453/05)

1. On 22 October 2021 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

— Veolia Environnement SA ('Veolia', France),

— Suez SA ('Suez', France).

Veolia acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of Suez.

The concentration consists of two stages: first, the acquisition of a non-controlling shareholding (29.9%) of Suez's capital and voting rights from Engie S.A. ('Engie') on 6 October 2020 ([2]), and second, the launch of a takeover bid for the remaining shares on 29 July 2021.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Veolia: solutions for water, waste and energy management. Its main activities are (i) water management services and technologies, (ii) activities relating to non-hazardous, regulated and hazardous waste and (iii) the provision of energy services, including energy management, production and distribution.

— Suez: provision of services in the water and waste sector and of technological solutions.

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.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit to it any observations they may have on the proposed operation.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date on which this notification is published. The following reference should always be specified:

M.9969 – VEOLIA / SUEZ

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal 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]) According to the terms of an agreement concluded between Veolia and Engie on 5 October 2020.