Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8666 — Uralchem/Uralkali)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 245/06)

1. On 6 July 2018, the Commission received 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]).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

— Joint Stock Company United Chemical Company Uralchem ('Uralchem') (Russia),

— Public Joint Stock Company Uralkali ('Uralkali') (Russia).

Uralchem acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Uralkali.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for undertaking Uralchem: production and distribution of mineral fertilizers.

— for undertaking Uralkali: production and distribution of potash as well as related/derivative potassium salts.

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. The following reference should always be specified:

M.8666 — Uralchem/Uralkali

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

E-mail: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 229-64301

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
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([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.