Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8950 — BASF DOM Business/Solenis/JV)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 414/17)

1. On 6 November 2018, 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:

— BASF DOM Business ('BASF DOM Business', Germany), solely controlled by BASF SE (Germany),

— Solenis LLC ('Solenis', United States), solely controlled by Clayton, Dubilier & Rice, Inc. ('CD&R', United States),

— A newly created joint venture ('JV', UK).

BASF SE and CD&R acquire within the meaning of Articles 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control over the JV that will combine Solenis, with BASF's global paper and water chemicals business.

The concentration is accomplished by way of transfer of assets and purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— BASF DOM Business is comprised of BASF SE's global business in developing, manufacturing, marketing and selling wet-end paper chemicals and water treatment chemicals.

— Solenis is a specialty chemical company and provider of process and water solutions. The company's product portfolio includes process aids, water treatment chemistries, functional additives, and monitoring and control systems.

— The JV will be a specialty chemical company and provider of process and water 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 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.8950 — BASF DOM Business/Solenis/JV

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