Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.10070 — Eurofiber/Proximus/JV)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2021/C 248/06)

1. On 18 June 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:

— Eurofiber NV ('Eurofiber', Belgium),

— Proximus NV ('Proximus', Belgium),

— the Joint Venture ('JV', Belgium).

Eurofiber and Proximus acquire within the meaning of Articles 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the newly created JV.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Eurofiber: operation of electronic communication services and networks in the Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Germany with a specific focus on connectivity services and networks over fiber to business customers and service providers,

— for Proximus: operation of fixed and mobile electronic communication services and networks for residential and business customers in Belgium, both at the retail and wholesale level,

— for JV: roll-out and operation of a dense passive open Point-to-Point Fiber-To-The-X network in certain parts of the Walloon Region of Belgium. The JV will only be active at the wholesale level of the market.

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.10070 – Eurofiber/Proximus/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').