PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8826 — Elia System Operator/Eurogrid International)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 110/06)

1. On 15 March 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:

— Elia System Operator N.V./S.A. ('Elia', Belgium),

— Eurogrid International CVBA ('Eurogrid', Belgium).

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

The concentration is accomplished by way of change in shareholding structure of minority shareholders.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Elia: company owning, operating, maintaining and developing Belgium's high- and extra-high-voltage grid,

— for Eurogrid: company investing in electric utility-related companies and providing support services to its customers. Eurogrid owns 100 % of 50 Hertz Transmission GmbH, one of the four TSOs in Germany. Eurogrid itself is currently jointly controlled by Elia and IFM Investors Pty Ltd ('IFM'), owning respectively 60 % and 40 % of the shares. IFM will reduce its shareholding in Eurogrid to 20 %.

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.8826 — Elia System Operator/Eurogrid International

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
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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.