EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 14.10.2020
C(2020) 7159 final

**PUBLIC VERSION**

**To the notifying party**

**Subject:** **Case M.9917 — Liberty/Ascoval/Hayange**
**Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004[1] and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area[2]**

Dear Sir or Madam,

1. On 22 September 2020, the European Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which Liberty House Group PTE Ltd. ('Liberty', Singapore) intends to acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of France Rail Industry ('FRI', France, ultimately controlled by Greybull) and Ascoval Saint-Saulve ('Ascoval', France, ultimately controlled by Greybull).[3] The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

   – for Liberty: Liberty belongs to Liberty Group, an international metals and industrial group, specialising in commodities, metals recycling, manufacture of steel, aluminium and engineering products,

   – for FRI: FRI operates the Hayange steel factory located in France. Hayange produces rails, a type of finished steel products,

   – for Ascoval: Ascoval is a plant located in France which produces semi-finished steel products.

1 OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation'). With effect from 1 December 2009, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ('TFEU') has introduced certain changes, such as the replacement of 'Community' by 'Union' and 'common market' by 'internal market'. The terminology of the TFEU will be used throughout this decision.

2 OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 (the 'EEA Agreement').

3 Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 321, 29.9.2020, p. 41.

Commission européenne, DG COMP MERGER REGISTRY, 1049 Bruxelles, BELGIQUE
Europese Commissie, DG COMP MERGER REGISTRY, 1049 Brussel, BELGIË

Tel: +32 229-91111. Fax: +32 229-64301. E-mail: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu.

3. After examination of the notification, the European Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of the Merger Regulation and of paragraph 5(c) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.[4]

4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the European Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the internal market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

*For the Commission*

*(Signed)*
*Olivier GUERSENT*
*Director-General*

4 OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.