On 21/05/2010, the Commission decided to initiate antitrust proceedings in case COMP/39796 – Suez Environnement breach of seal.

The proceedings were opened with a view to adopting a decision in application of Chapter VI of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 and concern the breach of a seal affixed during the inspection of 13-16 April 2010 at the premises of the undertaking Lyonnaise des Eaux, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Suez Environnement. Infringements within the meaning of Article 23(1) lit. (c) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 were allegedly committed by these undertakings.

The initiation of proceedings does not imply that the Commission has proof of an infringement – it only signifies that the Commission is dealing with the case as a matter of priority.