

On 18 July 2007, the Commission initiated proceedings within the meaning of Article 11(6) of Regulation No 1/2003 and Article 2(1) of Regulation No 773/2004.

The present investigation concerns a suspected infringement of Article 81 EC by E.ON AG, its subsidiaries and companies under their control, including E.ON Ruhrgas AG (the 'E.ON group'), as well as by Gaz de France SA, its subsidiaries and companies under their control ('the GDF group'). The suspected infringement takes the form of an agreement and/or concerted practice between the E.ON group and the GDF group restricting competition in their respective home markets, in particular concerning supplies of natural gas transported over the MEGAL pipeline.

The initiation of proceedings does not imply that the Commission has conclusive proof of an infringement. It only signifies that the Commission will further investigate the case as a matter of priority.