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COMP/M.5740 - GAZPROM/ A2A/ JV

Gazprom Germania is a 100% subsidiary of OOO Gazprom Export, a company incorporated under Russian law and in its turn wholly-owned by OAO Gazprom, the ultimate parent company of a Russian energy group. The Gazprom group is not directly or indirectly involved in any energy business in Italy.

A2A Spa is an Italian multi-utility company founded in 2008 after the merger between AEM SpA Milano and ASM Spa Brescia. The A2A Group operates mainly in Italy in the following sectors: energy (electricity and gas), district heating and cogeneration, waste and distribution networks. In case *COMP/M. 3729 EDF/AEM/Edison*, the Commission held that A2A exercises joint control, together with Electricité de France SA, over Edison Spa.

Through the notified concentration Gazprom Germania GmbH and A2A Spa intend to operate a full-function joint venture denominated PremiumGas, a company which, in the intention of the Parties, will be acting as an independent player in the supply of natural gas in Italy and perform all the functions of a fully functional autonomous economic entity.

This is the first time that Gazprom is entering the Italian gas sector. Its previous attempt, through a joint venture with Eni Spa, was in fact aborted⁵. The relevant transaction had been notified to the Commission and was duly authorized with the decision in the Case COMP/M. 5183 *Centrex/ZMB/Enia/JV* on 15 September 2008.