

***Case No COMP/M.3510 -
SHELL / SAUDI
ARAMCO / SHOWA
SHELL***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

**REGULATION (EC) No 139/2004
MERGER PROCEDURE**

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 20/08/2004

*Also available in the CELEX database
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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 20/08/2004

SG-Greffe(2004) D/203607/8

PUBLIC VERSION

MERGER PROCEDURE
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

To the notifying parties

Dear Madam(s) and/or Sir(s),

**Subject: Case No. COMP/M.3510 – Saudi Aramco/ Shell/ Showa Shell
Notification of 19/07/2004 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No.
139/2004¹
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C 191 of
27.07.2004 page 5**

1. On 19/07/2004, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004 by which the undertaking Saudi Arabian Oil Company ('Saudi Aramco'), Saudi Arabia acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking Showa Shell Sekiyu K.K. ('Showa Shell') Japan by way of purchase of shares from Royal Dutch/ Shell Group ('Shell' UK) who will also acquire joint control. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are :

-for **Saudi Aramco** : exploration, production and marketing of crude oil and refined oil products.

-for **Showa Shell** : refining of crude oil and the distribution and sale of refined oil products

¹ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004 p. 1

-for **Shell** : exploration, production and sale of oil and natural gas, the production and sale of chemicals, power generation and the production of energy from renewable sources

2. After examination of the notification, the Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 and of paragraph 5, subparagraph a, of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EEC) No139/2004².
3. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the common market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004.

For the Commission

(signed)
Mario MONTI
Member of the Commission

² Adopted by the Commission on 20 July 2004 and available on DG COMP website: http://europa.eu.int/comm/competition/mergers/legislation/consultation/simplified_tru.pdf.