

***Case No COMP/M.4444 -  
GE / BANQUE ARTESIA  
NEDERLAND***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

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Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION  
Date: 07/12/2006

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 07/12/2006

SG-Greffe(2006) D/207502

MERGER PROCEDURE  
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

PUBLIC VERSION

**To the notifying party**

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

**Subject: Case No. COMP/M.4444 - GE / Banque Artesia Nederland  
Notification of 31 October 2006 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation  
(EC) No. 139/2004<sup>1</sup>  
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C 275,  
11.11.2006, p.11**

1. On 31 October 2006, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 by which the undertaking General Electric Company (“GE”, USA) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Banque Artesia Nederland NV (“BAN”, the Netherlands) by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are :
  - for undertaking GE : a diversified manufacturing, technology and services company, made up of a broad range of business units ;
  - for undertaking BAN : a Dutch medium-sized corporate and retail bank.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004 p. 1

3. After examination of the notification, the Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004 and of paragraph 5, subparagraph c of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004<sup>2</sup>.
4. 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  
Philip LOWE  
Director General

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<sup>2</sup> OJ C 56, 05.3.2005 p.32