

***Case No COMP/M.4463 -
AN POST / FORTIS / JV***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 12/01/2007

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 12/01/2007

SG-Greffe(2006) D/200130

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.4463 - AN POST / FORTIS / JV
Notification of 29/11/2006 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004¹
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C 301 of 12/12/2006, p. 15.

1. On 29/11/2006, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004 by which the undertakings An Post (Ireland) and Fortis Bank SA/NV, a wholly owned subsidiary of Fortis SA/NV (Belgium) and Fortis NV (the Netherlands), the two parent companies of the Fortis group (together “Fortis”), acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of a newly created company constituting a joint venture by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are :
 - An Post: universal postal service operator in Ireland;
 - Fortis: international provider of banking and insurance services to private, business and institutional customers.

¹ 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(b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004.
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