

***Case No COMP/M.5052 -  
INEOS / BP VAM & EtAc  
business***

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: 25/02/2008

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 25-II-2008  
SG-Greffe (2008) D/200773

PUBLIC VERSION

MERGER PROCEDURE  
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

To the notifying party

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

**Subject: Case No. COMP/M.5052 - INEOS/ BP VAM & EtAc business  
Notification of 22.01.2008 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 24 of 29.01.2008, page 15**

1. On 22.01.2008, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004 by which INEOS Europe Limited ("INEOS Europe", UK) belonging to the INEOS group ("INEOS", UK) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of part of BP plc ("BP", UK) active in vinyl acetate monomer ("VAM") and ethyl acetate ("EtAc") ("the Business", UK) by way of purchase of assets.

The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for INEOS Europe : manufacture and sale of specialty and intermediate chemicals, mainly in Europe;
- for INEOS : global manufacture and sale of specialty and intermediate chemicals;

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

- for the Business : manufacture and sale of VAM and EtAc compounds;
  - for BP : a global vertically integrated energy and petrochemical company.
2. 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>.
  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)*  
Philip LOWE  
Director General

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