

***Case No COMP/M.6345 - CHEUNG
KONG HOLDINGS/
NORTHUMBRIAN WATER GROUP***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 22/09/2011

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 22/09/2011
C(2011) 6892

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER
PROCEDURE

To the notifying party

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

**Subject: Case No COMP/M.6345 - CHEUNG KONG HOLDINGS/ NORTHUMBRIAN WATER GROUP
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004¹**

1. On 26.08.2011, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited ("CKH", Hong Kong) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of Northumbrian Water Group plc ("NWG", England and Wales) by way of public bid.²
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for CKH: investment holding, property development and investment, hotel and serviced suite operation, property and project management and investment in securities;

¹ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 ("the Merger Regulation"). With effect from 1 December 2009, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ("TFEU") has introduced certain changes, such as the replacement of "Community" by "Union" and "common market" by "internal market". The terminology of the TFEU will be used throughout this decision.

² Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 261, 03.09.2011, p.9

- for NWG: provision of water and waste water services in the North East of England and in parts of the South East of England, waste management, consultancy laboratory testing services.
3. After examination of the notification, the European Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of the Merger Regulation and of paragraph 5(b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004³.
 4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the European Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the internal market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation.

For the Commission
(signed)
Alexander ITALIANER
Director General

³ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.