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Case No COMP/M.7422 - RIVERSTONE/ BARCLAYS/ ORIGO

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION

Date: 09/04/2015

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 9.4.2015
C(2015) 2458 final

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER
PROCEDURE

To the notifying parties

Dear Sirs,

**Subject: Case M.7422 - RIVERSTONE / BARCLAYS / ORIGO
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC)
No 139/2004¹ and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area²**

1. On 6 March 2015, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which Riverstone Holdings LLC ("Riverstone", UK) and Barclays Bank plc ("Barclays", UK) will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture Origo Exploration AS ("Origo", Norway).³
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - Riverstone: private equity firm focused on investments in the energy and power sectors.
 - Barclays: global financial services provider engaged in personal banking, credit cards, corporate and investment banking and wealth and investment management services.

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 OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 ("the EEA Agreement").

³ Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 086, 13.03.2015, p. 15.

- Origo: newly-established company, which will be engaged in oil and gas exploration and production activities on the Norwegian and United Kingdom continental shelves.
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(c) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.⁴
 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 and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

For the Commission

(Signed)
Alexander ITALIANER
Director-General

⁴ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.