



News Release

26/07

10 May 2007

CC FORMALLY CLEARS BRICKS MERGER

The Competition Commission (CC) has formally cleared the anticipated acquisition by Wienerberger Finance Service BV (Wienerberger), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Wienerberger AG, of Baggeridge Brick plc (Baggeridge).

In its final report published today at www.competition-commission.org.uk, the CC has concluded that the acquisition, which brings together the third and fourth largest brick manufacturers in the UK, was not expected to give rise to a substantial lessening of competition.

This confirms the CC's provisional findings, which were published last month. See news release dated 4 April at: www.competition-commission.org.uk/press_rel/2007/apr/index.htm.

The merger was referred by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) on 11 December 2006.

Notes for editors

1. The CC is an independent public body, which carries out investigations into mergers, markets and the regulated industries.
2. The members of the Wienerberger/Baggeridge merger inquiry group are: Christopher Clarke (Group Chairman and a CC Deputy Chairman), Laurie Elks, Ian Jones and Peter Jones.
3. The Enterprise Act 2002 empowers the OFT to refer to the CC completed or proposed mergers for investigation and report which create or enhance a 25 per cent share of supply in the UK (or a substantial part thereof) or where the UK turnover associated with the enterprise being acquired is over £70 million.
4. The CC has a 24-week period in which it is required to publish its report, which may be extended by no more than eight weeks if it considers that there are special reasons why the report cannot be published within that period. It is required to report by 28 May 2007.
5. Enquiries should be directed to Siobhan Allen on 020 7271 0242 (email siobhan.allen@cc.gsi.gov.uk).