

**Completed acquisition by Pennon Group plc of Bristol Water Holdings UK Limited**

**Notice under paragraph (b) of the definition of ‘initial period’ in section 34ZA(3) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act) published pursuant to section 107(1)(ab) of the Act**

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) hereby gives notice pursuant to paragraph (b) of the definition of ‘initial period’ in section 34ZA(3) of the Act that it has sufficient information in relation to the completed acquisition by Pennon Group plc of Bristol Water Holdings UK Limited, (the Merger) to enable it to begin an investigation for the purposes of deciding whether to make a reference for a Phase 2 investigation under section 22 of the Act.<sup>1</sup>

The initial period defined in section 34ZA(3) of the Act in relation to the Merger will therefore commence on the first working day after the date of this notice, ie on 20 September 2021. The end of the initial period and the deadline for the CMA to announce its decision whether to refer the Merger for a Phase 2 investigation is therefore 12 November 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> This notice applies only to the CMA’s investigation of whether to refer the Merger under section 22 of the Act. The initial period in relation to whether to refer the Merger under section 32 of the Water Industry Act 1991 has not yet commenced.