
REFERENCE RELATING TO THE ACQUISITION BY VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT S.A. OF SUEZ S.A.

Notice of extension of inquiry period under section 39(3) of the Enterprise Act 2002¹

1. On 21 December 2021, the Competition and Markets Authority (**CMA**), in exercise of its duty under section 33(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**), referred the anticipated merger of Veolia Environnement S.A. (**Veolia**) and Suez S.A. (**Suez**) to its Chair for the constitution of a Group of CMA Panel Members (the **Inquiry Group**). The period within which the report on this reference was to be prepared and published (the **reference period**) was due to expire on 17 July 2022.
2. On 19 May 2022, the Inquiry Group published its Provisional Findings and a Notice of Possible Remedies.
3. The Inquiry Group has decided that the reference period should be extended by eight weeks under section 39(3) of the Act as it considers there are special reasons (set out below) why the Final Report cannot be prepared and published within the reference period. The revised reference period will expire on 11 September 2022. However, the Inquiry Group aims to complete the inquiry as soon as possible and in advance of this date.
4. In taking this decision, the Inquiry Group had regard to the scope and complexity of the inquiry, the need to consider issues raised by the main parties' and third parties' submissions, and the need to reach a fully reasoned Final Report in the statutory timeframe. In light of these factors, the Inquiry Group considers that completion of its inquiry and the publication of its Final Report, including the remedies process, will not be possible within the original reference period.

[signed]

Stuart McIntosh
Inquiry Group Chair
30 June 2022

¹ Published pursuant to section 107(2)(c) of the Enterprise Act 2002.