
REFERENCE RELATING TO THE ANTICIPATED JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN FORFARMERS N.V. AND BOPARAN PRIVATE OFFICE LIMITED

Notice of extension of inquiry period under section 39(8A) of the Enterprise Act 2002¹

1. On 9 January 2023, 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 joint venture between ForFarmers N.V. (together with its subsidiaries, **ForFarmers**), via ForFarmers UK Holdings Limited, and Boparan Private Office Limited (part of **Boparan**, the group of companies operated by, and under the common ownership of, Ranjit Singh Boparan and his family interests, through Boparan Private Office Limited and Boparan Holdco Limited), via Amber REI Holdings Limited, with the purpose of merging their respective businesses and operations in the production of animal nutrition products, namely ForFarmers UK Limited and 2 Agriculture Limited (the **Merger**) to its Chair for the constitution of a Group of CMA Panel Members (the **Inquiry Group**).² The period within which the report on this reference was to be prepared and published (the **reference period**) was due to expire on 25 June 2023.
2. On 11 January 2023, the Parties made a request to the CMA in accordance with [section 39\(8A\)](#) of the Act for a specified period of time to be disregarded for the purposes of the reference period, as the Parties were considering next steps, including whether to proceed with the CMA's investigation or whether to abandon the arrangements which are the subject of the reference.
3. The CMA considered the request and reasonably believes that the proposed arrangements might be abandoned.
4. Accordingly, the CMA has decided, pursuant to [section 39\(8A\)](#) of the Act, that a period of three weeks is to be disregarded for the purposes of the reference period and the reference period will therefore expire on 16 July 2023.

(signed)
Richard Feasey
Inquiry Group Chair
12 January 2023

¹ Published pursuant to sections [39\(8B\)](#) and [107\(2\)\(c\)](#) of the Enterprise Act 2002.

² ForFarmers and Boparan are together referred to as the **Parties**.