



EU, Trade & Competition

Our London and Brussels-based EU, Trade & Competition teams advise on the full range of competition, state aid, public procurement and international trade law issues. This includes advising on global merger control requirements for corporate transactions and regularly representing clients before the European Commission and the OFT/Competition Commission, as well as before national merger control authorities in France, Italy, Spain, Germany and China.

EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK

- Advising Nuclear Management Partners Limited and its parents (Washington Group International, AMEC Nuclear Holdings Limited and AREVA NC) on the Sellafield decommissioning award, in particular in securing unconditional Phase I merger control clearance from the OFT and written confirmation from the European Commission of the non-applicability of the EC Merger Regulation.
- Advising a major energy company on state aid in the nuclear insurance sector.
- Advising German local energy utility companies on the German merger control aspects of the re-acquisition of a district heating infrastructure asset and related assets and the acquisition of a combined heat and power plant and related assets.
- Advising a number of major suppliers and purchasers of energy on the enforceability of long-term supply deals (including long-term take-or-pay deals) under the competition rules.
- Advising a Norwegian gas producer in proceedings initiated by the European Commission concerning an alleged infringement of Article 81 of the EC Treaty in relation to the joint selling of gas to customers in the EEA.
- Representing oil traders in an LCIA arbitration in respect of claims arising out of the disposal and acquisition of crude oil stocks.

OUR TEAM

Our EU, Trade & Competition Teams are highly experienced, having advised clients across the energy and utilities sector on a wide range of issues including the competition aspects of various types of commercial agreement such as distribution agreements, technology transfer agreements and research and development and specialisation agreements.

We also undertake competition-related due diligence and dawn raid training and designs, and implement procedures and processes to facilitate pre-completion data exchange within the requirements of applicable competition legislation.

“The team shares knowledge and discusses issues openly, while always keeping the target in sight”

Chambers & Partners,
2010

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

“Hammonds seems to have discovered the holy grail of top quality advice at a reasonable cost” (Legal Week Client Satisfaction Report, 2009). Diarmuid Ryan is “excellent” and has “client skills second to none” (Legal 500, 2009). “Diarmuid Ryan is practical and proactive – when it comes to it, he can simply outgun other lawyers” (Chambers & Partners, 2009).

CONTACT DETAILS

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