



1 November 2016

CICRA consults on Sandpiper and Costcutter merger application

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities (CICRA) has today (1 November) registered an application for formal merger clearance from Sandpiper and JMart.

The application seeks the authority's approval, without which the deal cannot proceed, for Sandpiper to acquire Spar (Channel Islands) Limited (operating in Jersey under the Costcutter brand) from JMart.

The registering of the formal application means that CICRA is now in a position to begin its independent assessment of the proposed merger with an initial two-week consultation period for any interested parties to comment.

CICRA chief executive, Michael Byrne, said: "CICRA can now start its assessment of this application which will be conducted in accordance with its standard merger assessment process."

Documents relating to the merger, including a non-confidential version of the merger clearance application, are available on CICRA's website (http://cicra.gg/competition/mergers_acquisitions.aspx#MA_Grid). Interested parties are invited to submit any comments in writing to CICRA.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

All enquiries should be directed in writing to CICRA chief executive, Michael Byrne, in Guernsey at Suite 4, 1st Floor, Plaiderie Chambers, La Plaiderie, St Peter Port, Guernsey, GY1 1WG or in Jersey at the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority, 2nd Floor, Salisbury House, 1 - 9 Union Street, St Helier, Jersey JE2 3RF. Alternatively email info@cicra.gg.

In line with CICRA's consultation policy, it intends to make responses to the consultation available on the CICRA website. Any material that is confidential should be put in a separate annex and clearly marked as such so that it may be kept confidential. CICRA regrets that it is not in a position to respond individually to the responses to this consultation.

About CICRA:

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities or 'CICRA' is the name given to the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA) and the Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority (GCRA) (formerly the Office of Utility Regulation). The JCRA was established under the Competition Regulatory Authority (Jersey) Law, 2001, and the GCRA was established under The Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2012. In Jersey, the telecoms and postal sectors are regulated by the JCRA, which is also responsible for administering and enforcing the Competition (Jersey) Law 2005. In Guernsey the telecoms, postal and electricity sectors are regulated by the GCRA, which is also responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Guernsey competition law since it came into force on 1 August 2012.

By working together and sharing resources and expertise between the islands, CICRA strives to ensure that consumers in all the Channel Islands receive best value, choice and access to high quality services.