

## PRESS RELEASE

### **The CNMC is investigating possible anti-competitive practices in the solid fuel sector**

- It is analysing possible agreements for the distribution of customers, price fixing and exchange of information

**Madrid, 4 October 2018.-** The CNMC (Spain's National Authority for Markets and Competition) is investigating possible anti-competitive practices being carried out in the market for the purpose of marketing metallurgical coke, petroleum coke, coal, anthracite, foaming agents and recarburisers in Spain.

On 2 and 3 October 2018, inspections were performed at the headquarters of several companies operating in this market. These inspections are part of the investigation opened by CNMC after being provided with information by the Basque Competition Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Law 1/2002, of 21 February, which coordinates the powers of the state and the autonomous regions in competition matters, in view of the possible carrying out of an anti-competitive collusive practice by certain companies in the market for the purposes of marketing metallurgical coke, petroleum coke, coal, anthracite, foaming agents and recarburisers in Spain.

The inspections are a preliminary step in the investigation of alleged anti-competitive practices and do not prejudice the investigation's outcome or the culpability of the inspected companies. If, as a result of the inspections, evidence of practices prohibited by the Defence of Competition Act is found, disciplinary proceedings will formally commence.

*Documento no oficial, destinado a los medios de comunicación, y que no vincula a la CNMC. Reproducción permitida solo si se cita la fuente.*