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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

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COMET P/2008 E2 = P/2003 KV_2 (LINEAR)

After the posting on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage of an apparently asteroidal object discovered by the Catalina Sky Survey, S. Foglia (Novara Veveri, Italy) suggested an identification with comet P/2003 KV_2 (cf. *IAUC* 8139), indicating a correction of ΔT = +0.8 day to the prediction by Nakano on *MPC* 56801. CCD astrometry:

2008	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.	*Observer*
Mar.	3.46904	15^{h}57^{m}40^s.93	+24°18′15″.2	18.7	Hill
	3.47646	15 57 42.30	+24 18 14.6	19.0	"
	3.48384	15 57 43.52	+24 18 14.4	18.7	"
	3.49127	15 57 44.89	+24 18 14.4	19.0	"
	3.99893	15 59 12.01	+24 17 35.6	19.2	Süssenberger
	4.00323	15 59 12.73	+24 17 34.9	19.5	"
	4.01054	15 59 13.98	+24 17 34.1	19.2	"
	4.04198	15 59 19.28	+24 17 32.4	20.0	"
	4.06552	15 59 23.34	+24 17 30.4		Birtwhistle
	4.07005	15 59 24.09	+24 17 30.0		"
	4.07465	15 59 24.86	+24 17 30.1	19.5	"
	4.35803	16 00 13.55	+24 17 13.6	18.7	McGaha
	4.36091	16 00 14.16	+24 17 12.7	19.2	"
	4.36378	16 00 14.54	+24 17 12.7	19.8	"
	4.48099	16 00 34.27	+24 17 05.5		Ries
	4.48764	16 00 35.40	+24 17 04.9		"
	4.49428	16 00 36.48	+24 17 04.7		"

R. E. Hill (Catalina). 0.68-m Schmidt telescope.
U. Süssenberger (Bergen-Enkheim Observatory). 0.36-m reflector.
P. Birtwhistle (Great Shefford, U.K.). 0.40-m reflector.
J. E. McGaha (Sabino Canyon Observatory, Tucson). 0.36-m reflector.
J. G. Ries (McDonald Observatory). 0.76-m reflector.

The following orbital elements by B. G. Marsden are from 171 observations, 2003–2008 (mean residual 0″.7):

Epoch = 2008 May 14.0 TT

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
T = 2008\ \text{May}\ 19.0176\ \text{TT} & \omega = 188^\circ.7935 & \\
e = 0.630017 & \Omega = 66.3890 & \Big\}\ 2000.0 \\
q = 1.060435\ \text{AU} & i = 25.5549 &
\end{array}
$$

a = 2.866176 AU n° = 0.2031187 P = 4.85 years

2008 March 4 *Daniel W. E. Green*