



Media Release- 30 July 2004

ComReg finds eircom dominant in the market for wholesale broadband access

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today published the conclusions of its review of the market for wholesale broadband access and also published a consultation on the draft Decision on the obligations proposed - ComReg 04/83.

The market for wholesale broadband access includes the wholesale offerings of bit stream access; Fixed Wireless Access (FWA); and cable broadband, all of which permit the transmission of broadband data. In the analysis of the market, ComReg found that eircom is dominant and that regulatory intervention is required to address the competition problem in the market.

The new regulatory framework obliges ComReg to impose obligations on the operator with Significant Market Power (SMP), which is found to be eircom. The following obligations are proposed: access to and use of, specific network facilities; price control; transparency; non-discrimination; and accounting separation. ComReg believes that the measures proposed for the wholesale market will enable competition to develop and hence deliver benefits to consumers.

The paper contains both the response to consultation on the market review and a further consultation on the Draft Decision setting out eircom's obligations. This is contained in Annex F of the paper. In line with the procedures of the new regulatory framework, ComReg is notifying the EU Commission and other European regulators, in order that they may comment before ComReg makes its final conclusions. ComReg welcomes comments from interested parties on the draft Decision. Comments must be submitted by Friday 27th of August 2004.

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