



Commission for
Communications Regulation

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ComReg Consults on Fees Payable by Broadcast Distributors

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today issued a Consultation Document (ComReg 03/78) seeking views on its proposals for administrative charges and Wireless Telegraphy licence fees applicable to broadcasting networks and services.

This document is part of the series on the future framework for authorisations under the new EU Directives for Electronic Communications Networks (ECN) and Electronic Communication Services (ECS) that comes into effect on 25 July 2003. It is concerned specifically with the application of administrative charges and Wireless Telegraphy licence fees within the broadcasting sector. The document outlines detailed proposals following ComReg's general conclusion on fees contained in its fees paper issued in May (ComReg 03/46).

ComReg proposes to continue its established practice of applying administrative charges and fees for wireless telegraphy licences. It intends to apply an administrative charge in respect of its costs in regulating the sector and where appropriate, to impose a fee in respect of the issue and renewal of licences for wireless telegraphy apparatus.

The overall income generated is expected to be less than it is now, in particular, due to the change in the basis for charging Cable and MMDS operators.

A levy on relevant turnover remains the preferred basis for determining the administrative charge. However, in some cases an alternative measure may be necessary. ComReg considers, however, that whatever the actual basis for the calculation the charge should reflect the scale of the network and be relatively simple to apply in practice.

Interested parties have until 17.30 on the 23rd of July 2003 to respond to the proposal which is available on www.comreg.ie in Document ComReg 03/78.

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