



Media Release- 22 October 2004

ComReg issues consultation paper on interconnection markets

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) has issued a consultation paper (ComReg04/106) on the market analysis for the wholesale interconnection markets on fixed networks.

The interconnection markets for fixed networks are defined as follows:

- A national market for wholesale call origination;
- National markets for wholesale call termination services;
- A national market for wholesale call termination services used to provide retail calls to service providers on public telephone networks, provided at a fixed location; and
- A national market for wholesale call transit services on the public telephone network provided at a fixed location.

The consultation paper proposes that eircom has significant market power in all of the markets defined. In addition, it is proposed that all operators providing fixed termination services for calls to end-users have significant market power on individual networks.

A range of obligations has been proposed to address market power and competition problems in these markets.

ComReg is proposing to lift existing obligations related to international transit services from eircom as the market for international transit is not considered appropriate for ex-ante intervention.

Interested parties are invited to respond to the consultation by submitting responses to ComReg by 6 December 2004. The full paper ComReg 04/106 in relation to this matter may be found on the ComReg website. www.comreg.ie

ENDS

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