



Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release
18th February, 2000

REGULATOR TO CONSULT ON SCOPE OF THE RIO

On 7 September 1999, the Telecoms Regulator concluded her review of *eircom's* Reference Interconnect Offer (RIO) with the publication of Decision Notice D12/99. The Decision Notice extended the scope of the RIO - the “catalogue” of interconnection services that *eircom* must offer competitors.

On 10 September 1999, *eircom* announced that it was challenging the Director's decision and had issued High Court proceedings. As a result of the proceedings, by operation of law, the Decision Notice D12/99 was then suspended.

To provide an opportunity to move forward on the RIO issues that are of key importance to all players in the market, the Telecoms Regulator announced today that a new consultation is being opened by the ODTR on all matters in D12/99. After consideration of replies, the ODTR will issue a new Decision.

The court proceedings in respect of D12/99 are still in place and to ensure no unnecessary delay arises in dealing with these, dates for possible court hearings have been agreed for both the scope of the appeal (2nd May) and the substantive issues (27th June).

ENDS

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