Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

MEDIA RELEASE

**Telecoms Regulator to issue one
National Terrestrial Trunked Radio Licence
Competition to be held in the autumn**

Etain Doyle, Telecoms Regulator, today (Wednesday 2 August 2000) indicated that she will issue one National TETRA (Terrestrial Trunked Radio) licence. The licence will be awarded by tender, using a comparative selection process and will be valid for 15 years . Tender documentation will be available shortly.

According to the Regulator " The introduction of public access mobile radio TETRA services in Ireland has the potential to create further choice and diversity for users of business mobile communications. Key factors in determining the successful applicant will be a commitment to increasing competition in the mobile communications market, an ability to roll out a high quality National TETRA Network with 80% coverage after two years and offers of performance guarantees."

TETRA (Terrestrial Trunked Radio) is a mobile communications service aimed at professional business users. It can deliver a broad range of voice and data services in both public and private networks such as communications for transport fleet management or on a major construction site. It is more sophisticated than existing two-way business radio communications and users will be able to tailor the service to suit their own requirements, for example TETRA combines the functionality of high

performance business mobile radio with access to the public telephone network and to mobile data services.

She continued " the principle reason for proceeding with one licence only at this stage is the uncertainty regarding the long term spectrum requirement for this type of service. The majority of respondents to the consultation on this topic support this view. However, we will continue to monitor the market and may review the spectrum available and if appropriate, issue more licences."

She continued "I would like to thank all those who responded to the consultation on Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA). My Office received a total of 17 responses, representing among others, potential operators, end-users and equipment manufacturers. This provided a broad range of constructive comment upon which we have developed our proposals."

Document ODTR 00/54, "Opening the Market for Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA): Response to the Consultation." can be viewed on the ODTR Web site: www.odtr.ie.

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Notes for Editors

1. TETRA is defined as a system conforming to the relevant TETRA technical standards defined by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), or functionally equivalent publicly available standards for digital terrestrial trunked radio systems.

2. The one national licence will comprise 2x2 MHz of radio spectrum