



An Coimisiún um  
**Rialáil Cumarsáide**  
Commission for  
**Communications Regulation**

## **Withdrawal of certain Eircom's wholesale regulated access obligations relating to VDSL Ethernet Access ('VEA')**

### **Information Notice**

**Reference:** ComReg 21/126

**Version:** Final

**Date:** 16/12/2021

**An Coimisiún um Rialáil Cumarsáide**  
**Commission for Communications Regulation**

1 Lárcheantar na nDugaí, Sráid na nGildeanna, BÁC 1, Éire, D01 E4X0.  
One Dockland Central, Guild Street, Dublin 1, Ireland, D01 E4X0.  
Teil | Tel +353 1 804 9600 Suíomh | Web [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie)

## Additional Information

Document No:	21/126
Date:	16/12/2021

1. The Commission for Communications Regulation (**'ComReg'**) is the statutory body responsible for the regulation of the electronic communications sector (telecommunications, radio-communications, and broadcasting transmission) in Ireland.
2. ComReg has considered a request<sup>1</sup> from Eircom Limited (**'Eircom'**) for the withdrawal of certain access obligations in the Wholesale Local Access (**'WLA'**) and Wholesale Central Access (**'WCA'**) Markets.
3. The obligations in relation to the withdrawal of access to facilities already granted in the WLA and WCA Markets are part of the access obligations imposed on Eircom in Section 7.7(ii) of the ComReg Decision Instrument D10/18<sup>2</sup> for the WLA market (**'WLA Decision Instrument'**) and in Section 7.5(ii) of the ComReg Decision Instrument D10/18<sup>3</sup> for the WCA market (**'WCA Decision Instrument'**). These obligations require Eircom *“not to withdraw Access to facilities already granted without the prior approval of ComReg and in accordance with terms and conditions as may be determined by ComReg;”*.
4. Based on the information provided, ComReg has decided to grant Eircom permission for the withdrawal of its access obligations in respect of this specific request as outlined at paragraph 5 below and in respect of certain access obligations in the WLA and WCA Markets.
5. A summary of the withdrawal of access is as follows:
  - (a) The retirement of the Plain Old Telephone Service (**'POTS'**) Based VEA options.
  - (b) The reduction of the QoS options (from 14 to 3). The three QoS options are 100% STD (“Best effort/Standard”), 100% AF (“Assured Forwarding”), and 100% EF (“Explicit Forwarding”).
  - (c) The retention the existing four download/upload speeds (100/20 Mbps, 70/15 Mbps, 50/16 Mbps, 20/8 Mbps) – with 100/20 Mbps remaining as RA (“Rate adaptive”) with only the 100% STD QoS option.

---

<sup>1</sup> Request from Eircom to ComReg to approve simplification of NGA VDSL Ethernet Access (VEA) Product, letter dated 20 July 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Wholesale Local Access at a Fixed Location (ComReg Document No 18/94, Appendix 20 Decision No D10/18).

<sup>3</sup> Wholesale Central Access at a Fixed Location (ComReg Document No 18/94, Appendix 21 Decision No D10/18).

6. The key points in coming to this decision were as follows:

- (a) There are no customers using the VEA profiles (QoS options) proposed for withdrawal.
- (b) Eircom have engaged with operators on the issues through its product development process;<sup>4</sup>
- (c) No issues have been identified in the proposal that would raise major concerns with respect to competition; and
- (d) ComReg is satisfied with the justification provided by Eircom for its request. Wholesale operators must be able to rationalise their products so that they can operate their networks and systems in an efficient manner provided that adequate notifications of such changes are provided to its customers.

---

<sup>4</sup> Eircom RAP product development CRD-812.