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ComReg proposes lifting obligation on eircom for international leased lines

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) has today issued a response to consultation and notification to the EU Commission proposing to lift the obligation on eircom to publish prices for retail international leased lines.

Leased lines are an important element of Ireland's communications infrastructure. International leased lines are used by businesses and multinationals for efficient voice and data communication.

Many businesses in Ireland, be they domestic or overseas companies, need competitive telecommunications services to operate in the global market-place. Companies require facilities which allow them to remain in constant communication with their customers. Typically, international leased lines afford such capability.

ComReg has completed a significant review of this market under the new EU Regulatory Framework. As part of the review ComReg took on board the views of the industry and has concluded that there are a range of different providers supplying retail international leased lines.

As the review found that no single operator is dominant in this particular market, ComReg believes this market is effectively competitive. ComReg proposes, as part of a process of rolling back regulation, where effective competition exists to remove remaining obligations and allow market forces to operate.

The full response to consultation paper – ComReg 04/120 is available on the ComReg website www.comreg.ie in the Publications' section of the website.

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