



Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

1st December, 1998

REGULATOR WELCOMES IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERIM INTERCONNECTION RATES IN TIME FOR LIBERALISATION

The Director of Telecommunications Regulation, Etain Doyle, welcomed today (Tues 1st Dec), the implementation by Telecom Éireann of interim interconnection rates for the newly liberalised telecommunications market.

The Director's office reviewed with Telecom Éireann its proposed rates for outstanding RIO (Reference Interconnection Offer) services, including important areas such as the rates at which International traffic will be connected for other operators; charges for access to Directory Enquiry and other Operator Services; and rates for access to Freefone, Premium Rate and other Revenue Sharing Services. The full report on Remaining References Interconnect Offer Rates is available on the ODTR website (www.odtr.ie) – [Document No. ODTR 98/60](#).

“The setting of the interconnection rate is one of the most complex pieces in the liberalisation process and I am delighted that agreement on interim rates is now in place on the day that the telecommunications market is liberalised” the Director said.

As already indicated the Director is open to consultation on a number of Interconnection issues, in particular LRIC which would, if implemented, reduce interconnect rates further. The Director reiterates her invitation for comments from interested parties on the scope and scale of such a consultation.

ENDS