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ComReg proposes to remove obligations from eircom for high bandwidth Retail Leased Lines

The Commission for Communication Regulation (ComReg) has today published the results of its market analysis on the markets for retail and wholesale leased lines. The conclusions, which are being notified to the EU Commission and subject to the Commission's clearance, propose to remove obligations on eircom to pre-publish prices for high bandwidth retail leased lines.

Leased Lines form an important element of Ireland's communications infrastructure. They can either directly or indirectly, support telecommunications for consumers. Retail leased lines are used by businesses for efficient voice and data communications between multiple sites in Ireland. Wholesale leased lines are used by network operators, such as mobile operators, to build out their networks to provide services to business and retail customers.

ComReg has already proposed the lifting of existing restrictions on eircom for the prenotification of prices on retail international leased lines.

In addition to the conclusions on the market for high bandwidth retail leased lines, ComReg's market analysis also reviewed the level of effective competition in low bandwidth retail leased lines and in the provision of wholesale leased lines. ComReg concluded that effective competition has still not been achieved and eircom enjoys a position equivalent to dominance in these particular markets. For this reason ComReg is proposing to designate eircom as having significant market power (SMP) and puts forward proposals for appropriate regulation to be placed on eircom.

The full document – ComReg 05/03 is available on the ComReg website <u>www.comreg.ie</u> and they can be located in the Publications section of the website.

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