

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2001

## **Regulator Updates LLU Progress**

Etain Doyle, Telecoms Regulator today (13<sup>th</sup> March 2001) issued a status report on the implementation of LLU in Ireland. Since the last report substantial progress has been made with the industry on a range of issues and the report identifies the next steps in completing the process.

She said "Given that *eircom* have indicated some difficulties with the introduction of a bitstream offering which was originally planned for April 2001, other forms of unbundling may now take on greater importance in the short-term."

"The ODTR is fully committed to the practical steps necessary to complete LLU arrangements. I invite the industry to actively engage in completion of the process and have outlined some key steps this office will take to fast forward some major issues that will enable the provision of an initial service which can be developed and extended in line with demand" she added

The Director outlined the key steps which her office will undertake over the coming months:

• <u>Provision of Information</u> -the process on information supply set out by *eircom* in the Reference Access Offer has not proved effective, and the Director intends to intervene and

complete an examination of this area by end March 2001. "The objective of this is to ensure

that access seekers have access to the information they need to prepare their requests for

access" she said.

**Pricing** - progress has been made on this, in particular on the LRIC pricing announced by

eircom, but information is still required from eircom on both Historic and LRIC bases to

complete the ODTR assessment. A further update will be issued by the end of March 2001.

In the interim, the indicative price range for monthly rental of fully unbundled loops, on a

historic basis, provided in ODTR 00/99 still stands.

**Process Development** -the ODTR has engaged specialist consultancy support to work

with the industry to develop new process documentation to support, for example ordering

and maintenance, and expects to present this to industry for approval before the end of

March.

**Types of unbundling**: Without prejudice to *eircom*'s obligations under the LLU

Regulation to meet all reasonable requests (for example other forms of collocation), it may

be sensible to focus on inclusion of high priority services and facilities in the Reference

Access Offer. The Director has invited proposals in this regard. The intention would be to

fast-track arrangements for an initial implementation of services with immediate commercial

relevance.

ODTR 01/15 Implementation of Local Loop Unbundling in Ireland - Status Report

Information Notice can be viewed on the ODTR website www.odtr.ie

**ENDS** 

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