

MEDIA RELEASE

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Statement by Telecommunications Regulator Etain Doyle on the judgement by the Supreme Court re: Director of Telecommunications Regulation and Meteor Mobile Communications Ltd V's Orange Communications Ltd

Telecoms Regulator, Etain Doyle today (18th May 2000) warmly welcomed today's decision by the Supreme Court which backed her original decision to award the third mobile licence to Meteor Mobile Communications. The Regulator will now make arrangements to issue the third licence.

According to the regulator "The real winner here today is the Irish Consumer .The speedy introduction of a third player in the mobile market will bring about much needed competition in the lucrative and growing mobile market. I believe we will see a significant reduction in mobile charges right across the board as a direct result of the market entry of a third licensee."

She added, "I am pleased that the Supreme Court has recognised the quality of the work and vindicated the integrity of the evaluation team in their original deliberations."

I am happy that all legal proceedings regarding this issue have now concluded and look forward to getting on with the important business of regulating what is a dynamic and exciting telecoms marketplace.

Finally, I would like to wish Orange Communications Ltd well in the future.

ENDS

Issued by

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