

CONTINUATION NOTICE TO BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PLC AND COLT TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNDER PARAGRAPH 22 OF SCHEDULE 18 TO THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT 2003

Notice that the "Direction under the provisions of Regulation 6(6) of the Telecommunications (Interconnection) Regulations 1997 of a dispute between COLT Telecommunications ("COLT") and British Telecommunications plc ("BT") concerning charges calculated in accordance with the Element Based Charge ("EBC") matrix" made on 17 December 2001 will continue to have effect from 25 July 2003

1. The Director General of Telecommunications ("the Director"), in accordance with Paragraph 22 of Schedule 18 to the Communications Act 2003 ("the Act") hereby gives notice to British Telecommunications plc ("BT") and COLT Telecommunications ("COLT") that the "Direction under the provisions of Regulation 6(6) of the Telecommunications (Interconnection) Regulations 1997 of a dispute between COLT Telecommunications ("COLT") and British Telecommunications plc ("BT") concerning charges calculated in accordance with the Element Based Charge ("EBC") matrix" given by the Director under regulation 6 of the Telecommunications (Interconnection) Regulations 1997 (SI 1997/2931) on 17 December 2001 will continue to have effect from 25 July 2003 ("the Continued Direction").

2. The Director considers, for the reasons set out in the Statement which the Director will publish, that the Continued Direction makes provision corresponding to that which he has the power to include in conditions set under Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Act and/or directions under section 187 of the Act.

3. This Notice shall continue to have effect until the Director has given a further notice to BT and COLT in accordance with Paragraph 22 of Schedule 18 to the Act that this Notice shall cease to have effect.

4. The Director issued a consultation as to his proposals to continue directions made under regulation 6 of the Telecommunications (Interconnection) Regulations 1997 (SI 1997/2931) on 3 July 2003 and requested comments by 14 July 2003. The Director has taken into account the comments he received during that consultation.

5. In this Notice, except as otherwise provided or unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them and otherwise any word or expression shall have the same meaning as it has in the Act. For the purposes of interpreting this Notice, headings and titles shall be disregarded.

NEIL BUCKLEY
POLICY PROJECT DIRECTOR

A person duly authorised by the Director General of Telecommunications pursuant to paragraph 8 of Schedule 1 to the Telecommunications Act 1984

21 July 2003