10 July 1997

Minutes of the Seventy-Eighth Meeting of the Commission Held at 12 noon on Monday, 23 June 1997 at the ITC, 33 Foley Street

PRESENT:	
Chairman:	Sir Robin Biggam
Deputy Chairman:	The Earl of Dalkeith
Members:	Dr John Beynon Mr Roy Goddard Ms Jude Goffe Mrs Eleri Jones Dr Maria Moloney
APOLOGIES:	Mr John Ranelagh Dr Michael Shea
ALSO PRESENT:	
BY INVITATION:	
DI INVITATION.	

Multiplex Licences B, C and D - ITC Information Paper 59(97) refers
Preliminary Points
3. The receipt of a letter from BDB on the previous Friday afternoon was NOTED (attachment to ITC Information Paper 59(97)). It was AGREED that the proposal in this letter met in full the concerns set out in the Secretary's letter of 4 June to Mr (Annex 1 to ITC Paper 81(97)).
4. The Chairman asked Mr to advise on a letter together with enclosures received from , acting for , on Friday 20 June. Mr said
5. A letter from

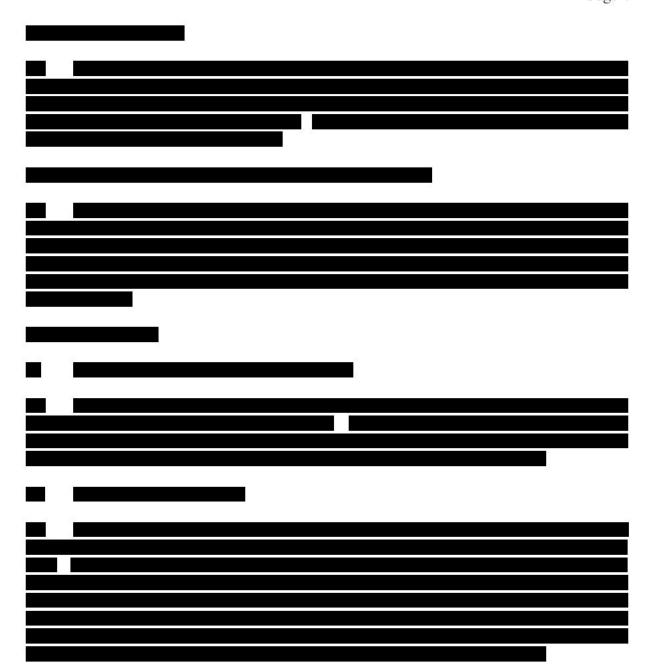


Award of Licences B, C and D

- 7. It was AGREED that all the information sought by the ITC pertaining to a decision on awards of the multiplex licences B, C and D had now been assembled, and that Members should proceed to decide whether, or to whom, to award of each these licences, having regard to the applications received, including relevant supplementary proposals, the further information provided by the applicants, the results of the public consultation and the detailed discussion of these matters at previous Commission meetings.
- 8. Following discussion, it was DETERMINED that for each of multiplex licences B, C and D:
 - (i) having regard to the extent to which, taking into account the matters specified in section 8(2) of the Broadcasting Act 1996 and representations made to the Commission in pursuance of section 7(8)(b) with respect to those matters, the award of each licence to each applicant would be calculated to promote the development of digital television broadcasting in the United Kingdom otherwise than by satellite;
 - (ii) taking into account the ITC's general duties under the Broadcasting Acts 1990 and 1996 concerning the exercise of its licensing functions, including its competition duties; and
 - (iii) having regard to relevant EC law;

each of these licences should be awarded to British Digital Broadcasting plc.





MGR