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Electronic Communications Act

No. 81, 26 March 2003

Entered into force 25 July 2003, cf. however the provisions of Article 76

EEA legislation: Annex XI, Regulation 2887/2000/EC, Directives 1999/5/EC, 2002/19/EC, 2002/20/EC, 2002/21/EC, 2002/22/EC, 2002/58/EC and 2002/77/EC

CHAPTER I

Objective and scope. Administration of electronic communications affairs

Article 1

Objective and scope

This Act shall apply to electronic communications, electronic communications service and electronic communications networks.

The objective of the Act is to ensure cost-efficient and secure electronic communications in Iceland and encourage effective competition in the electronic communications market.

The Icelandic state shall ensure as far as possible that all Icelanders have access to electronic communications services as provided for in detail in this Act.

Electronic communications which consist exclusively of messages or transmissions via wire connections within the premises of a household, enterprise or institution, such as in hospitals, hotels, schools and factories, shall not fall within the scope of this Act.

This Act shall not apply to content broadcast on electronic

communications networks.

Article 2

Administration of electronic communications affairs

The Minister of Communications shall be ultimately responsible for electronic affairs.

The Post and Telecom Administration shall supervise electronic communications within the jurisdiction of the Icelandic state and supervise the enforcement of this Act.

CHAPTER II

Definitions

Article 3

For the purposes of this Act the following definitions shall apply:

1. Access: the making available to another undertaking of an electronic communications network, facilities or services under defined conditions for the purpose of providing electronic communications services;

2. Publicly available telephone service: a service available to the public for the transmission of national and international calls through terminal equipment which is connected to a fixed network termination point (NTP);
3. Public pay telephone: a telephone available to the public for use for payment;
4. Public telephone network: an electronic communications network which is used to provide publicly available telephone service. The network supports the transfer between NTPs, for both speech and other types of communication, such as fax and data.
5. Public communications network: an electronic communications network which is used wholly or mainly for the provision of publicly available electronic communications services;
6. Universal service: limited electronic communications services of a specified minimum quality which are available to all users at an affordable price regardless of their geographical location;
7. Subscriber: any natural person or legal entity which is

party to a contract with a seller of publicly available electronic communications services for the supply of such services;

8. Wide-screen television service: a television service which consists wholly or partially of programmes produced to be displayed in a full-height, wide-screen format.

9. Carrier pre-selection: a possibility offered subscribers of telephone services enabling them to direct certain classes of telephone communications to specific service providers, selected in advance, without having to use the prefix of the service provider in question;

10. Electronic communications undertaking: a natural person or legal entity which has notified the Post and Telecom Administration (PTA) of the proposed operation of electronic communications services or an electronic communications network;

11. Electronic communications undertaking with significant market power: an undertaking defined by PTA as having significant market power;

12. Electronic communications network: transmission