

34

Paul Mulqueen

From: Paul Mulqueen
Sent: 23 May 2006 09:33
To: 'Tom Quinn'
Subject: RE: EU Commission Query

Hi Tom,

I sought clarification from the Commission on the points raised in your e-mail below.

The Commission have now responded as follows;

"Regarding the figures, it would be useful to know the total number of broadcast hours (RTE incl. TG4) and then have a breakdown for each "genre" as well as total peak hours broadcast (RTE incl. TG4) and then a breakdown for each "genre." It would be useful if the figures were compiled so that we can distinguish how much is RTE and how much is TG4. It would be great if we could have figures for the last three years."

Regards,

Paul

-----Original Message-----

From: Tom Quinn [mailto:Tom.Quinn@rte.ie]
Sent: 15 May 2006 09:26
To: Paul Mulqueen
Subject: RE: EU Commission Query

Hi Paul,

Is it for 2005 only? AR pages 7 and 93/4 give details. Do you want breakdown of non indigenous hours?
Thank you.
Tom

From: Paul Mulqueen [mailto:Paul.Mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie]
Sent: 12 May 2006 14:56
To: Tom Quinn
Subject: RE: EU Commission Query

Dear Tom,

I have seen the chart of page 7 "indigenous hoursduring peak time", I was just unsure if that chart reflects of the overall position, have I missed something?

Regards,

Paul.

-----Original Message-----

From: Tom Quinn [mailto:Tom.Quinn@rte.ie]

23/05/2006

Sent: 12 May 2006 14:41
To: Paul Mulqueen
Subject: RE: EU Commission Query

Hi Paul,
What is purpose of query?
As you are probably aware, probably everything you are looking for is in the Annual Report which is with the Dept.
Please let me know.
Thank you.
Tom

From: Paul Mulqueen [mailto:Paul.Mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie]
Sent: 12 May 2006 14:21
To: Tom Quinn
Subject: EU Commission Query

Dear Tom,
I am writing to seek some statistics which the EU Commission have requested from us in the context of discussions we have been having on State Aid.

The Commission have sought statistics on RTE's total broadcast hours (also broken down per "topic" or genre).

Perhaps you can let me know if you can provide these.

Regards,

Paul Mulqueen
Broadcasting Policy Division
Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources,
29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin 2.

Tel:353 1 6783092
Fax 353 1 6783099
paul.mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie

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41.

Paul Mulqueen

From: Paul Mulqueen
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2006 11:32 AM
To: 'Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu'
Cc: Bill Morrissey
Subject: RE: Case E4/2005 State Financing of RTÉ and TG4 - Follow-up from November meeting

Hi Ellenora,

Yes, we are working on this at the moment.

I hope to have a reply to you in the next few days.

Regards,

Paul.

From: Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu [mailto:Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu]
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2006 11:05 AM
To: Paul Mulqueen
Subject: Case E4/2005 State Financing of RTÉ and TG4 - Follow-up from November meeting

Dear Paul,

I am trying to wrap up things before the holiday period and therefore I wanted to follow up on where we left things at the meeting in November. I believe you were to send us comments on the items discussed during the meeting (and also indicated in our October 4 email). Could you let me know how your colleagues have advanced with their comments? Many thanks for your help.

Best regards,
Elleonora

P Mulqueen

45

From: Paul Mulqueen
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2006 2:53 PM
To: 'Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu'
Subject: RE: Broadcasting Bill - next steps

Hi Ellenora,

I will follow up this and get back to you with the details.

Regards,

Paul

From: Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu [mailto:Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu]
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2006 2:11 PM
To: Paul Mulqueen
Subject: RE: Broadcasting Bill - next steps

Dear Paul,

I refer to the outline of the timing set out below. In light of the ongoing consultation procedure, could you please provide us with an up-date of the timing of the process and also explain whether there will be another consultation once the report has been finalized in [January] and what exactly the procedure and timing is once the report has been done?

Many thanks,

Elleonora

From: Paul Mulqueen [mailto:Paul.Mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie]
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2006 6:58 PM
To: SOARES Elleonora (COMP)
Subject: FW: Broadcasting Bill - next steps

Elleonora,

Further to our telephone conversastion today I am enclosing an e-mail which I hope clarifies the questions you raised.

If you need any further clarification pelase let me know.

Regards,

Paul.

Paul Mulqueen
Broadcasting Policy Division
Department of Communications Marine and Natural Resources,
29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin 2.

Tel:353 1 6783092

Paul Mulqueen

From: Bill Morrissey

Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2007 2:51 PM

To: 'Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu'

Cc: Paul Mulqueen

Dear Elleonora,

We are currently awaiting the final report of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Communications, Marine and Natural Resources on the public consultation undertaken on the draft general scheme of the Broadcasting Bill under the eConsulation initiative. We expect that Committee will publish the report in the next few weeks (we understand that a draft final report has been prepared for the Committee's consideration). We intend to forward a copy of this report to you on publication.

On receipt of the report we propose to immediately revisit the text of the Bill in the light of the Committee's and DG Competition's concerns (initial scoping work will commence directly after Easter). It should be noted that any significant changes to the draft general scheme proposed by the Minister will require further Government approval before legal drafting by the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel can conclude.

As you are aware a general election is likely to be held in May, with formation of a government in May/June. It is our intention to recommend to the newly appointed Minister to move forward with legislative proposals that address the issues discussed with DG Competition.

Regards

Bill Morrissey
Broadcasting Policy Division

Paul Mulqueen

From: Paul Mulqueen
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2007 10:29 AM
To: 'elleonora.soares@ec.europa.eu'
Attachments: econsultation report.pdf; Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2006 as passed by Dail Eireann.pdf

Hi Elleonora,

Just a short email to update you on the progress of the draft general scheme of the Broadcasting Bill and the Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill.

Draft general scheme of the Broadcasting Bill

The Joint Committee on Communications Marine and Natural Resources completed its public consultation (eConsultation process) into the draft general scheme of the Broadcasting Bill on the 18th April. I attach for information a copy of the Committee's report.

The Minister is now considering the report to ascertain whether changes are required to the draft general scheme of the Broadcasting Bill.

In respect of a final timescale for publication of the Bill, much will depend on the wishes of the incoming Minister. It is anticipated that the Taoiseach will next week announce a date in late May for the Irish general election. It is likely that a new Government will be formed in June.

As requested my colleague Bill Morrissey is currently preparing a list of the existing legislative provisions that will remain in force on enactment of the draft general scheme of the Broadcasting Bill, it is hoped to forward this to you during the course of next week.

Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill

As you are aware, the Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2006 was introduced into the Houses of the Oireachtas in December 2006. The Bill passed all stages in the Houses of the Oireachtas on the 3rd of April 2007 and was signed by the President on the 10th of April 2007. In addition the Minister commenced on the 18th April 2007 by order the operation of all sections of what is now the Broadcasting (Amendment) Act 2007.

I attach for information a copy of the Bill as passed by Dáil Éireann. We are currently awaiting a pdf version of the Act, which I will forward to you once it becomes available, however the text of the Bill as passed by Dáil Éireann and the final act is the same.

This new legislation develops a transparent regulatory framework for digital terrestrial broadcasting and to begin the process of analogue switch-off in Ireland, and contains certain obligations for PSB's and Regulators. The legislation also amends the public service remit of the RTÉ Authority to require it to provide a television and radio broadcasting service to Irish communities outside the island of Ireland.

If you have any particular queries regarding the new legislation or would like to be briefed either Kevin, Bill or myself would be delighted to assist.

Paul Mulqueen,
Assistant Principal,
Broadcasting Policy Division,
Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources,
29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin 2.

Tel: 353 -1- 6783092

Fax: 353 -1- 6783099

Paul.Mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie

66.

Paul Mulqueen

From: Paul Mulqueen
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2007 11:04 AM
To: Joe Meleady
Subject: State Aid information

Joe,

Dg Comp have asked for the following information in relation to State Aid case

"Could you also please explain in just a couple of paragraphs what RTE and TG4's commercial activities consist in (other than advertisement and sponsorship related activities and network transmission services). For example, the acquisition and sale of rights, production of programs, publishing activities and performance groups etc."

Can you ask RTE and TG4, separately I suppose now, for this information. Anne O' Connor in RTE will probably be able to help and Diarmuid probably has a contact in TG4

Paul Mulqueen,
Assistant Principal,
Broadcasting Policy Division,
Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources,
29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin 2.

Tel: 353 -1- 6783092
Fax: 353 -1- 6783099
Paul.Mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie

5/28/2007

Paul Mulqueen

4

From: Paul Mulqueen
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007 3:32 PM
To: 'Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu'
Subject: Queries

Hi Elleonora,

I got your call earlier.

I am awaiting a reply from RTE to the questions posed and had been promised same by Friday of last week.

I will check again and get back to you. Your phone is ringing out busy, hence the email.

Regards,

Paul..

6/28/2007

Paul Mulqueen

From: Kevin O'Brien
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2007 4:07 PM
To: 'Anne.OConnor@rte.ie'; Paul Mulqueen
Subject: Re: Acquired hours breakdown

Thanks for all the engagement with DG Comp on this Anne.

Am away in London until Friday but wouldn't mind having a follow on chat from yesterday then if that suits.

Kevin

----- Original Message -----

From: OConnor Anne <Anne.OConnor@rte.ie>
To: Paul Mulqueen; Kevin O'Brien
Cc: OConnor Anne <Anne.OConnor@rte.ie>
Sent: Wed Jun 27 13:42:21 2007
Subject: FW: Acquired hours breakdown

Paul and Kevin

FYI. I spoke with Elleonora this morning and she seems quite happy with the material she has received - if there is anything else we can help with please let me know.

All the best

Anne

From: Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu [mailto:Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu]
Sent: 27 June 2007 10:57
To: OConnor Anne
Subject: RE: Acquired hours breakdown

Dear Anne,

Thank you for the email. I don't think it is necessary at this point to go through the work to get the peak time figures. However, should it become necessary in the future perhaps we can then discuss how to best go ahead?

Many thanks for all your help and explanations.

Best wishes,

Elleonora

From: OConnor Anne [mailto:Anne.OConnor@rte.ie]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2007 11:03 AM
To: SOARES Elleonora (COMP)
Cc: OConnor Anne
Subject: Acquired hours breakdown

Dear Elleonora

First of all - a correction, the RTÉ Statement of Commitments was first published in January 2003 NOT 2004. Apologies for that.

Now, the next issues is the breakdown of the acquired hours, and on investigation apparently the all time analyses of acquired programming by genre comes from the system and is prepared for the RTÉ monthly management accounts. However RTÉ does not currently analyse peak time acquired hours in the same way as it is not required for management reporting purposes. Therefore I am informed that to try to get this breakdown would take a considerable amount of effort. The number of hours in peak time is recorded - and that figure is given in the Annual Report.

So perhaps we can discuss this please? If you would really like to see the breakdown I will of course ask the people concerned to provide it - it may take a little time but if you need it we will give it to you.

I'll call you to discuss.

All best wishes

Anne

Dr Anne O'Connor

Special Adviser to the Director General,
RTÉ,
Donnybrook,
Dublin 4.

Comhairleoir Speisialta don Phríomh-Stiúrthóir,
RTÉ,
Domhnach Broc,
Baile Átha Cliath 4.

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Paul Mulqueen

From: OConnor Anne [Anne.OConnor@rte.ie]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 2:30 PM
To: Paul Mulqueen
Subject: RE: RTÉ Response to European Commission enquiry

Thanks Paul – we should have the second one ready by the end of this week – will be back in touch.
All the best
Anne

From: Paul Mulqueen [mailto:Paul.Mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie]
Sent: 19 June 2007 14:29
To: OConnor Anne
Subject: RE: RTÉ Response to European Commission enquiry

Hi Anne,

Thank you for this.

Regards,

Paul

From: OConnor Anne [mailto:Anne.OConnor@rte.ie]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 2:08 PM
To: Paul Mulqueen; Joe Meleady
Cc: Kevin O'Brien; OConnor Anne
Subject: RTÉ Response to European Commission enquiry

Dear Paul and Joe

Please find attached the RTÉ response to the European Commission enquiry regarding RTÉ's commercial activities.

With every good wish,
Anne

Dr Anne O'Connor

Special Adviser to the Director General,
RTÉ,
Donnybrook,
Dublin 4.

Comhairleoir Spisialta don Phríomh-Stiúrthóir,
RTÉ,
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6/28/2007

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Paul Mulqueen

From: Paul Mulqueen
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 2:29 PM
To: 'OConnor Anne'
Subject: RE: RTÉ Response to European Commission enquiry

Hi Anne,

Thank you for this.

Regards,

Paul

From: OConnor Anne [mailto:Anne.OConnor@rte.ie]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 2:08 PM
To: Paul Mulqueen; Joe Meleady
Cc: Kevin O'Brien; OConnor Anne
Subject: RTÉ Response to European Commission enquiry

Dear Paul and Joe

Please find attached the RTÉ response to the European Commission enquiry regarding RTÉ's commercial activities.

With every good wish,
Anne

Dr Anne O'Connor

Special Adviser to the Director General,
RTÉ,
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6/28/2007

Paul Mulqueen

From: OConnor Anne [Anne.OConnor@rte.ie]
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2007 12:46 PM
To: Paul Mulqueen
Cc: Kevin O'Brien; OConnor Anne
Subject: RE: State Aid/ Indigenous programming

Dear Paul

Many thanks – Yes we will investigate and get back to you. We have the other response almost finished – I am just waiting for some final comments and am intending to send it to you early next week.

All best wishes
Anne

From: Paul Mulqueen [mailto:Paul.Mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie]
Sent: 14 June 2007 12:44
To: OConnor Anne
Cc: Kevin O'Brien
Subject: State Aid/ Indigenous programming

Hi Anne,

DG Comp has forwarded the e-mail below seeking some further information.

I was out of the office yesterday so I am only getting around to passing it on at this stage.

Do you think you can let me have the information sought insofar as it applies to RTÉ?

Regards,

Paul.

From: Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu [mailto:Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2007 5:28 PM
To: Paul Mulqueen
Subject:

Dear Paul,

I wonder if you could help me with a question concerning RTE's programming. At the outset, I understood "indigenous programming" as RTE's own productions only - i.e., programs that it put together and make it self. However, from the Annual Report I am not sure this is correct.

It would therefore be very helpful if you could clarify exactly what indigenous programming is and to that end provide just one or two examples of what in-house production is, what statutory commissions are and what non-statutory commissions are. Please also explain whether the acquisition of e.g., film or sports rights are part of indigenous programming or whether this is part of "other public service activity costs by output category; acquired programmes in Ireland and overseas."

6/28/2007

Could you also let me know what RTE and TG4's respective total broadcasting hours were in 2006 (no division between peak and non-peak time necessary).

Many thanks for your help. If you could get back to me by Thursday this week that would be very helpful. Feel free to call me if you have any comments or questions.

Kind regards,
Elleonora

Elleonora Soares
European Commission
DG Competition
State aid: Telecommunications and Media
☎ +32 2 296 1424
☎ +32 2 296 9816
✉ elleonora.soares@ec.europa.eu

PLEASE NOTE MY NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:

elleonora.soares@ec.europa.eu

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Paul Mulqueen

From: Paul Mulqueen
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2007 9:45 AM
To: 'Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu'
Subject: RE: TG4
Attachments: RE Ceist ón Roinn-State Aid.htm

Hi Elleonora,

I am attaching the note received from TG4 regarding their activities.

Regards,

Paul.

From: Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu [mailto:Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2007 1:44 PM
To: Paul Mulqueen
Subject: TG4

Dear Paul,

I just spoke to Anne O'Connor about TG4. I have not received any information regarding their activities and broadcasting hours. It would be very helpful if you could let me know what is holding them and when I could have the information.

Many thanks for your help!

Kind regards,

Elleonora

6/28/2007

Paul Mulqueen

From: Elleonora.SOARES@ec.europa.eu
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007 4:01 PM
To: Paul Mulqueen
Subject: RE: Queries

Dear Paul,
Many thanks for that.
Elleonora

From: Paul Mulqueen [mailto:Paul.Mulqueen@dcmnr.gov.ie]
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007 4:32 PM
To: SOARES Elleonora (COMP)
Subject: Queries

Hi Elleonora,

I got your call earlier.

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I will check again and get back to you. Your phone is ringing out busy, hence the email.

Regards,

Paul..

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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach.

Deimnítear leis seo freisin nár ainstitiúdh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.