



# Office of Utility Regulation

**Media Release**

## Regulator to Undertake audit of Radio Masts

The OUR is commissioning an audit of all telecommunications masts in the Bailiwick of Guernsey to check that they comply with the highest international safety standards for emission levels. All operators licensed by the OUR are required to comply with the internationally accepted standard on the level of emissions from masts.

“Clearly it is in the operators’ own interests to comply with their licence requirements”, said John Curran, Director of Regulation with the OUR, “but while the companies manage the day to day operation of the sites and making sure that they are within safe limits, independent checks are important to reassure the public”.

The audit will measure emissions from each individual site in the Bailiwick and the results will be published in the New Year. “Members of the public will be able to see the location of each site, the operators using the site, the highest readings for emissions from the site and how that compares to the current recognised international standard for safe emissions from masts.”, said John Curran.

The audit is being undertaken for the OUR by Cellular Design Services (CDS) and will provide a base set of measurements that can be updated regularly in the future with spot-checks.

**ENDS/  
1<sup>st</sup> November 2004**

## **Information for Editors**

The Office of Utility Regulation was established in 2001 to regulate the three utilities of post, telecommunications and electricity in the Bailiwick of Guernsey. The Office is headed up by Director General, Regina Finn and has four staff.

The role of the OUR is to protect the interests of Guernsey consumers and the economy. It does this by ensuring that customers receive the best in price, choice and quality services in the three regulated sectors, while at the same time ensuring that those sectors are vibrant and robust so that they can positively contribute to and underpin a successful Guernsey economy.

The OUR licenses and regulates telecommunications operators, Guernsey Electricity Ltd and Guernsey Post Ltd. Wherever possible, the OUR promotes the introduction of competition by ensuring that there is fair play and a level playing field between the operators. Where competition is not yet effective or where it is not feasible, the OUR regulates prices and quality of services to end customers.

More information is available from the OUR website [www.regutil.gg](http://www.regutil.gg), or by contacting the Office of Utility Regulation on 01481 711120.

## **ICNIRP Standard**

All OUR licensees must comply with the stringent International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) standards that are also used in most European countries including the UK. ICNIRP is a non-governmental organisation, formally recognised by the World Health Organisation (WHO), which evaluates scientific results from all over the world and produces guidelines recommending limits of exposure.