



# Office of Utility Regulation

**Media Release - 14<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

## **Guernsey Airtel's Licence Amended**

The Office of Utility Regulation (OUR) has amended Guernsey Airtel's licence to require the company to launch its services by 15<sup>th</sup> December. This is an extension of three months from the original licence requirement of 15<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

The decision to amend Guernsey Airtel Limited's (GAL) licence was made following a request from GAL. It is based on the fact that there have been significant changes within the planning environment in which GAL are currently operating, compared with what was in place at the time of GAL's application for a mobile operator's licence.

Jon Buckland, Director of Policy at the OUR, said: "Whilst this Office is disappointed that the Airtel network won't be in place as originally scheduled, we believe an extension is a reasonable course of action, given the change of emphasis with regard to the planning conditions that GAL are currently facing, compared with those that were in place at the time of GAL's licence application.

"However we did not believe that GAL's request for a six month extension was appropriate and have instead granted a three month extension which we believe is reasonable to both the company and the market. Airtel will however still be required to honour its performance guarantees which were linked to it launching its network on time and the company has committed to doing so."

Guernsey Airtel Ltd was granted its 2G and 3G licences in September 2006, and since then has been working to install its network.

Document OUR 07/12, entitled "Amendment to Guernsey Airtel Ltd 's 2G and 3G Mobile Licences" is published on the OUR Website - [www.regutil.gg](http://www.regutil.gg).

## **Information for the Editor**

- **About the OUR**

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, John Curran and has three 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.