



News Release

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CC REVIEWS CRR UNDERTAKINGS

On May 29 2009 the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) advised the Competition Commission (CC) to reconsider ITV's Contract Rights Renewal (CRR) Undertakings. A redacted version of the OFT's Advice has now been published on the CC's website at:
www.competition-commission.org.uk/inquiries/ref2009/itv/index.htm.

The Chairman of the CC has appointed a Group of members to review the Undertakings; it will be chaired by Diana Guy, a Deputy Chairman of the CC.

An administrative timetable will be published shortly, setting out the stages of our process and indicative dates for the initial stages. The timing of any change to the Undertakings will be highly dependent on the nature and extent of any change. The CC will indicate its target completion date once initial assessments have been completed.

Should interested parties wish to comment on the OFT's advice to the CC they should do so, in writing, by 26 June 2009. To submit evidence, please email marjorie.davies@cc.gsi.gov.uk or write to:

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Notes to editors

1. The CC is an independent public body, which carries out investigations into mergers, markets and the regulated industries.
2. The OFT and Ofcom formally launched a review of CRR in January 2008. This review was undertaken in light of possible changes of circumstances in the sale of UK television advertising since the Undertakings were accepted in 2003. ITV initially requested the OFT to review the Undertakings in October 2006.

3. The CRR Undertakings are a part (Clauses 5 to 11 and associated clauses) of a larger set of undertakings given by Carlton and Granada in 2003 following a report by the CC on the proposed merger of those two businesses to form ITV plc. The CRR Undertakings address concerns the CC had about the effect the enhanced market position ITV plc would have on competition in the sale of advertising airtime. Among other things, the CRR Undertakings allow buyers of advertising airtime to roll forward their pre-merger contracts, subject to annual adjustments which reflect the change in ITV1's share of advertising (measured in the form of its share of commercial impacts). The Undertakings created the Office of the Adjudicator which is responsible for determining certain disputes arising under the Undertakings and which reports on compliance. For a full text of the Undertakings and more information see the Office of the Adjudicator (CRR) website: www.adjudicator-crr.org.uk.
4. The CRR Undertakings were accepted by the Secretary of State under section 88 of the Fair Trading Act 1973. Under the Enterprise Act 2002 the power to supersede, vary or release undertakings under section 88 passed from the Secretary of State to the CC.
5. The members of the Inquiry Group are: Diana Guy (Inquiry Group Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the CC), Robin Aaronson, Tony Stoller and Robert Turgoose.
6. Further information on the CC and its procedures, including its policy on the provision of information and the disclosure of evidence, can be obtained from its website at www.competition-commission.org.uk.
7. Enquiries should be directed to Rory Taylor on 020 7271 0242 (email rory.taylor@cc.gsi.gov.uk).