



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Erkki LIIKANEN
Member of the Commission

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Dear Mr. Bräutigam and Mr. Schmitz,

Thank you for your letter of 14 January 2004 in which you re-iterate your concerns about interference caused by powerline communications (PLC). I acknowledge that there are concerns about the potential risks of interference caused by PLC. At the same time, PLC could add to competition among networks, stimulate investments in network technologies, in product and services innovation and in pricing packages, and promote cost saving innovations at network level.

EU law already has a set of rules to deal with harmful interference. Under Article 6 of the EMC Directive (Council Directive 89/336/EEC of 3 May 1989, as last amended by Directive 93/68/EEC) EU Member States are obliged to resolve cases of harmful interference to radio systems, should these occur. I also understand that practical experience with PLC in several EU Member States has until now led to few interference reports and that very few cases are currently under investigation by regulatory authorities.

I am seeking a solution that brings maximum benefits to the European society and European citizens. It seems that this can be achieved by allowing PLC deployment to go ahead while ensuring that harmful interference is dealt with by national regulatory authorities on a case by case basis.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Bräutigam and Mr Schmitz
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