**Businesses and municipal associations unanimously reject Vectoring monopoly**

**EU-Commission is asked to intervene**

_Berlin, 21.04.2016._ In a letter addressed to Commissioner Oettinger, Vice-President Andrus Ansip and other relevant Commissioners 25 associations expressed their concerns aiming at modifying a vectoring monopoly largely granted by the Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA) that would benefit Deutsche Telekom. The Commission has received the draft notification of the German regulator. According to the signatories, the decision delays and increases the price of the urgently needed fiber roll-out, instead of actually promoting the process.

The 25 associations argue: The transition to a gigabit society can only be realized through competition rather than new technological monopolies. Collectively, the signatories warn against the negative implications on the German business location, which will consequently have a spillover effect on Europe and its future competitiveness. The signatories are convinced that vectoring technology has to be open for every interested firm in order to promote the broadband deployment in also rural areas.

The associations underline, that competition not only promotes the necessary transition to the gigabit society but also the broadband targets of 2018. More than 80 % of the existing fiber connections to the house or end-user (FTTB/FTTH) are built by competitors. Additionally, more than 50 % of the total investments are realized by them. The associations are convinced that this vectoring II case is not only about a decision of a pure regulatory request made by Deutsche Telekom. It is a political landmark decision with a far-reaching impact on the society for the next ten years. It is time for politics to take responsibility and to clearly reject a technological monopoly.

Deutsche Telekom aims at contractually committing itself towards the BNetzA to deploy almost all 8.000 nearshore areas – an area of approximately 550 m around the Main Distribution Frame (MDF). These nearshore areas are the most profitable ones when it comes to the roll-out of broadband in Germany. The letter further argues: “The resulting obligation to overbuild already existing Next Generation Access infrastructures, including fiber and TV broadband cable, would not only be unique itself, but would also harm infrastructure based competition in Germany and Europe”.

Furthermore, the associations warn: “Facing the ever increasing challenges of digitalization, German companies from sectors like industry, SME, trade, services and agriculture need a full-coverage broadband network that allows for speeds beyond 50 Mbit/s. On a long-term and sustainable basis, this is only possible through an immediate, massive and continued roll-out of a fiber network”.

The associations underline: “Our goal hast to be a gigabit society. Only competition based infrastructure and investment will lead to a fast roll-out of the required gigabit networks”. Prohibiting investments for national and international investors will not only infringe European law but also harm end-user on a long-term basis. Consequently, the associations expect a strong intervention from the Commission.
The letter was signed by BEVH, BGA, BREKO, BUGLAS, DDV, DER MITTELSTANDSVERBUND, Deutscher Bauernverband, Deutscher LandFrauenverband, Deutscher Landkreistag, Deutscher Städtetag, DIE JUNGEN UNTERNEHMER, Digitale Gesellschaft, DVPT, eco, ECTA, FTTH Council Europe, FRK, GAME, GdW, HDE, INTUG, Telecom, VAF, VATM und VKU.

Contacts:

BEVH Bundesverband E-Commerce und Versandhandel Deutschland e. V.
Friedrichstraße 60, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 20 61 385-0, Fax: +49 30 20 61 385-20
E-Mail: info@bevh.de

BGA Bundesverband Großhandel, Außenhandel, Dienstleistungen e. V.
Am Weidendamm 1 A, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 59 00 99 5-0, Fax: +49 30 59 00 99 5 19
E-Mail: info@bga.de

BREKO Bundesverband Breitbandkommunikation e. V.
Invalidenstraße 91, 10115 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 58 580-410, Fax: +49 30 58 580-412
E-Mail: breko@brekoverband.de

BUGLAS Bundesverband Glasfaseranschluss e. V.
Bahnhofstraße 11, 51143 Köln, Tel.: +49 22 03 20 210-10, Fax: +49 22 03 20 210-88
E-Mail: info@buglas.de

DDV Deutscher Dialogmarketing Verband e. V.
Hauptstadtbüro DDV, Friedrichstraße 90, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 20253-133 Fax: +49 30 20253-333
E-Mail: d.henze@ddv.de

DER MITTELSTANDSVERBUND – ZGV e. V.
Am Weidendamm 1A, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 59 00 99-618, Fax: +49 30 59 00 99-617
E-Mail: info@mittelstandverbund.de

Deutscher Bauernverband e. V.
Claire-Waldoff-Straße 7, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 31 904-239, Fax: +49 30 31 904-431
E-Mail: info@bauerverb.net

Deutscher LandFrauenverband dlv e. V.
Claire-Waldoff-Straße 7, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 28 44 929-10, Fax: +49 30 28 44 929-19
E-Mail: info@landfrauen.info

Deutscher Landkreistag
Ulrich-von-Hassell-Haus, Lennéstraße 11, 10785 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 590097-309, Fax: +49 30 5900 97-400
E-Mail: Info@Landkreistag.de

Deutscher Städtetag
Hausvogteiplatz 1, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 37 711-0, Fax: +49 30 37 711-999
E-Mail: post@staedtetag.de

DIE JUNGEN UNTERNEHMER – BJU Berlin
Charlottenstraße 24, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 300 65-0, Fax: +49 30 300 65-390
E-Mail: kontakt@junge-unternehmer.eu

Digitale Gesellschaft e. V.
Singerstraße 108, 10179 Berlin, Tel.: +49 30 978 94 23-0
E-Mail: info@digitalegesellschaft.de

DVPT Deutscher Verband für Post, Informationstechnologie und Telekommunikation e. V.
Aliceplatz 10, 63065 Offenbach, Tel.: +49 69 82 97 22-20, Fax: +49 69 82 97 22-26
E-Mail: kontakt@dvpt.de

eco Verband der deutschen Internetwirtschaft e. V.
Lichtstraße 43 h, 50825 Köln, Tel.: +49 221 70 00 48-0, Fax: +49 221 70 00 48-111
E-Mail: info@eco.de