

BREKO

we would like to contribute our part to the ongoing consultation of the 2G/3G switch off. BREKO is an organization that represents hundreds of different alternative fiber network operators. Many of which are municipal service operators that also deploy fiber networks but also run networks for water, gas, and energy. We support many of the findings mentioned in the report and want to underline some in regard to the situation in Germany.

As correctly mentioned, 2G networks are still essential when it comes to M2M communication and, especially, smart electricity meters and other meters. Similar to the case of Hungary, Germany experiences a reliance on 2G networks when it comes to M2M communication. Approximal 80% of all smart meters use 2G to communicate and would need to be fully replaced if 2G networks would be shut down. As these meters have a longer service life replacing them too early would lead to an increase in costs for the municipal service operators.

Therefore, we appreciate that BEREC considers the perspective of M2M users and are hopeful that their needs are meet when deciding on the timing and procedure of the 2G shutdown. As BREKO we happily participate in any further consolidation about this topic in order to adequately represent our members.