



Project Kelvin a step closer

Local businesses and political representatives last week met with Hibernia Atlantic to discuss the possibility of connecting the city to Project Kelvin.

Newry's omission from the transatlantic telecommunications plans has sparked great debate in the city with local stakeholders making their disapproval heard. Hibernia Atlantic, for their part, said they were open to Newry's involvement in the plan.

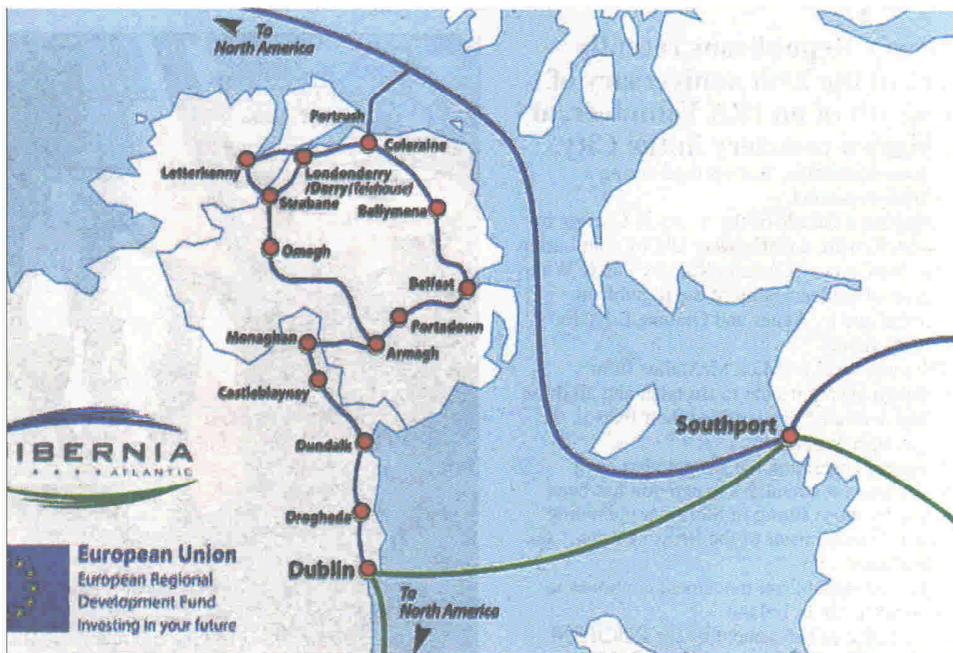
Following a meeting with senior executives from Hibernia, Minister for

Regional Development Conor Murphy said he believes Newry will be connected to Project Kelvin.

"While some work remains to be done I believe that it is achievable for Newry to become a Point of Presence in the project," he said.

"Newry's participation in the project would allow the area to attract large knowledge-based companies, and would facilitate the promotion of Newry as a business centre on the main route between the two largest cities on this island.

"In this difficult economic climate it is vital that we continue to promote Newry as a business centre in order to spur economic growth and employment in this area."



A map of Project Kelvin listing towns and cities that will have a Point of Presence. 09W31N153