Notification Number: 2001/159/E

Draft Royal Decree adopting the electrotechnical Regulations regarding low voltage.

Date received : 02/04/2001

End of Standstill : 03/07/2001 (03/10/2001)

Issue of detailed opinion by : Commission

Message

Departement of Trade and Industry - Stan dards and Technical Regulations - Dir 2

Mrs Brenda O'Grady

EFTA Surveillance Authority
Ms Solveig Georgsdottir

ELOT

Mr E. Melagrakis

European Free Trade Association Ms Anne-Lise Bakke-D'Aloya

Kauppa-ja teollisuusministeriö

Mr Petri Kuurma

Kommerskollegium Fru Kerstin Carlsson

Min. of Industry, Energy & Technology

Mr K. Polychronidis

Ministerie van Financiën - Belastingsdie nst - Douane / CDIU

De Heer IJ.G. van der Heiden

NSAI

Mr Tony Losty

Représentation Permanente de l'Irlande

Représentation Permanente du Royaume-Uni

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - SG(2001) D/50787

Directive 98/34/EC

Translation of the message 001

Notification: 2001/159/E

(MSG: 200100787.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2001 0159 E EN 04-04-2001 E NOTIF

2. Member State

Spain

3. Department Responsible

COMÍSION INTERMINISTERIAL PARA ASUNTOS CON LA UNION EUROPEA.MINISTERIO DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES, SECRETARIA DE ESTADO DE POLÍTICA EXTERIOR Y PARA LA UNION EUROPEA. DIRECCION GENERAL DE COORDINACION DEL MERCADO INTERIOR Y OTRAS POLÍTICAS COMUNITARIAS. SUBDIRECCION GENERAL DE ASUNTOS INDUSTRIALES, ENERGETICOS, TRANSPORTES, COMUNICACIONES Y MEDIO AMBIENTE. D/PADILLA, N° 46, 2° PLANTA, MADIRD 28071. TELEFONO (91) 3.79.83.32. FAX: (91) 3.79.84.02.

3. Originating Department

SUBDIRECCION GENERAL DE CALIDAD Y SEGURIDAD INDUSTRIAL. DIRECCION GENERAL DE POLITICA TECNOLOGICA. MINISTERIO DE CIENCIA Y TECNOLOGIA. PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 160. MADRID 28071.

4. Notification Number

2001/159/E

5. Title

Draft Royal Decree adopting the electrotechnical Regulations regarding low voltage.

6. Products Concerned

Materials and equipment for low-voltage use.

7. Notification Under Another Act

8. Main Content

The draft concerns internal low-voltage electrical installations, owned by users, for various uses (household, collective, commercial, sports-related, agricultural, provisional, temporary etc.), as well as low-voltage public transmission lines.

It consists of two legislative parts: the Regulations lay down the mainly administrative bases and general bases;

the 51 supplementary technical instructions develop that laid down in the Regulations and specify the technical requirements relating to the various specific uses.

In addition, a Ministerial Order develops that laid down in the second transitory provision of the Royal Decree.

The minimum safety requirements and the procedure for the design, operation and registration of the installations are laid down, as well as guidelines for their correct maintenance, with the adoption of an additional control system by means of initial and regular inspections in the most relevant cases.

With regard to electrical materials and equipment, the draft expressly stipulates that they must meet the requirements laid down in the relevant European directives. Only where such directives do not exist shall Spanish standards or any other standards, which provide an equivalent level of safety, accepted in any Member State of the European Union or the European Economic Area, including third countries with which an agreement exists, be used.

References to standards which are issued are a means of facilitating the technical implementation of the Regulations. However, it should be emphasised that said reference is purely a means to help those who are to design and build the installations, and is similar to the meaning of the "harmonised standards that confer the presumption of conformity" of the New Approach directives: anyone who wishes to comply with the minimum conditions by other means may do so, simply by stating the means used.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The draft is justified on two fronts: legal, in order to adjust to the framework laid down in the Spanish Constitution, the Spanish European Union Accession Treaty and the laws governing industry and the electrical sector; and technical, in accordance with current progress.

The current Regulations date from 1973 and, although they have been amended on various occasions since then, their implementation has led to difficulties, hence the need for a new complete text.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

David O'Sullivan **General Secretary**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION GROWTH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Single Market for goods Prevention of Technical Barriers

European Commission