



Notification Number: 1997/868/UK

## The Specified Risk Material Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997

Date received : 17/12/1997

End of Standstill :

### Message

MINISTERE DE L'INDUSTRIE ET DE LA RECHERCHE  
ATT. M. SERRIS

INSTITUT BELGE DE NORMALISATION,  
ATT. M. CROON

SERVICE DE L'ENERGIE DE L'ETAT, LUXEMBOURG  
ATT. M. J.P. HOFFMANN

MINISTERE DE L'INDUSTRIE  
ATT. M. CAVANNA

DEPT. OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, QUALITY AND EDUCATION DIVISION,  
ATT. MRS. B. O'GRADY

GOVERNMENT SERVICE OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, NSAI  
ATT. MR. O. BYRNE

MINISTERIE VAN ECONOMISCHE ZAKEN, (DEPT OR),  
ATT. MR. VAN DER HEIDE

ERHVERVSFREMME STYRELSEN  
INDUSTRIMINISTERIET  
ATT. MR. KELD DYBKJAER

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY  
ATT. MR. Z.P. MAVROUKAS

HELLINIKOS ORG. TYPOPOSEOS  
ATT. MR. MELAGRAKIS

BUNDESMINISTERIUM FUER WIRTSCHAFT (BMWl)  
ATT. DR. WINKEL

BUNDESMINISTERIUM FUER WIRTSCHAFTLICHE ANGELEGENHEITEN  
ATT. ABT I/A/4 FRAU GREGORICH / FRAU HASLINGER-FENZEL



MIN PARA RELACIONES CON LA COMUNIDA  
ATT M. LUIS ANTONIO RICO URIOS

INSTITUTO PORTUGUES DA QUALIDADE  
ATT MR. CANDIDO DOS SANTOS, PORTUGAL

KOMMERSKOLLEGIUM  
ATT. MS. KERSTIN CARLSSON

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
ATT. MS. NIEMINEN

DGS INTERNATIONAL BELGIUM

REP PERMANENTE ROYAUME UNI

REP PERMANENTE IRLANDE

REP PERMANENTE GRECE

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION  
ATT. MS. BAKKE-D'ALOYA

TELEX 001

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (97) D/53616  
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC, 88/182/EEC AND 94/10/EC

NOTIFIKATION - NOTIFIZIERUNG - NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICACION  
NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICA - KENNISGEVING - NOTIFICACAO - ILMOITUS  
ANMÄLAN : 97/0868/UK.

FRISTERNE INDLEDES IKKE -KEIN FRISTBEGINN - DOES NOT OPEN THE  
DELAYS - NO ABRE EL PLAZO - N'OUVRE PAS DE DELAIS - NON FA  
DECORRERE LA MORA - GEEN TERMIJNBEGIN - NAO INICIA O PRAZO  
MÄÄRÄAIKA EI ALA TÄSTÄ - INLEDER INGEN FRIST.

- 3B1 : 9703616.EN

**1. Structured Information Line**

TLX 001 IND- 97 0868 UK- EN ----- 971217 --- ---

**2. Member State**

United Kingdom

**3. Department Responsible**

Department of Trade and Industry: Standards Standards and



## Technical Regulations

### 3. Originating Department

Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland

### 4. Notification Number

97/0868/UK

### 5. Title

The Specified Risk Material Regulations (Northern Ireland)  
1997

### 6. Products Concerned

Specified Risk Material (SRM), as defined in Commission  
Decision 97/534/EC.

### 7. Notification Under Another Act

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### 8. Main Content

This legislation will partly implement the provisions of EC  
Decision 97/534/EC and will extend UK domestic controls  
on the use of specified risk material derived from cattle,  
and on the heads of sheep and goats. The existing prohibition  
on the sale and use of UK Specified Risk Material (SRM) in  
food for human consumption will be extended to cover a wider  
range of SRM in relation to sheep and goats slaughtered in  
the UK. Formerly it only extended to sheep and goat heads.

The sale and use in food of SRM and certain products  
containing or derived from SRM, imported from other Member  
States and third countries will also be prohibited: the  
definition of SRM for these purposes is more limited than  
that applicable to material from animals slaughtered in the  
UK, and reflects the definition in Commission Decision  
97/534/EC.

also imported SRM The Regulations (together with the Specified  
Risk Material Order (Northern Ireland) 1997, which is being  
notified in parallel with this notification) will amend  
and partially replace the Specified Bovine Material  
(Treatment and Disposal) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997  
(which came into force on 1 May 1997) and the Heads of Sheep  
and Goats (Treatment and Disposal) Regulations (Northern  
Ireland) 1996 (which came into force on 16 September 1996).

Controls on the handling, staining, storage, use and disposal  
of Specified Bovine Material (SBM) have been in place in the  
UK since 1989. Similar controls on the heads of sheep and  
goats have been in place since 1996 following scientific  
advice; these are stained and disposed of in the same way as  
SBM. These are repeated in these Regulations.



Until now the prohibition on the sale and use of specified material in food for human consumption has applied only to material from cattle, sheep and goats which have died or been slaughtered in the UK; the amending legislation would apply this prohibition equally to imported specified material

#### **9. Brief Statement of Grounds**

The introduction of this legislation follows a recommendation earlier this year by the UK Government's independent scientific advisors (the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (SEAC)), that early action be taken to introduce tighter controls on the use of SRM (i.e. those parts of cattle, sheep and goats which are considered to pose a significant risk of infection by a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy), preferably on an EU-wide basis. Commission Decision 97/534/EC was adopted in July 1997. It is due to be applied on 1 January 1998 but introduction of controls may be deferred following failure to agree on a new proposal designed to overcome a number of problems identified since July. (These concerned the effect of the decision on trade with third countries in pharmaceutical and cosmetic products, its effect on certain industries using SRM in processes posing no risk to public health, and the fact that it may cause shortages of essential pharmaceutical products). The UK considers that, pending the implementation of any replacement Decision, it is necessary for health reasons to implement controls on the lines of the original Decision (though taking into account the Commission's more recent proposals) by the prescribed date. This is partially achieved in this Regulation.

#### **10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts**

i. (a) A copy of the draft Statutory Rule, the Specified Risk Material Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997, is attached.

(b) above replaces/amends the text notified in Notification 97/0125/UK.

ii. N/A

#### **11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

Yes

#### **12. Grounds for the Emergency**

This measure has been introduced under the emergency procedure in the interest of public health.

#### **13. Confidentiality**

No



**14. Fiscal measures**

No

C. TROJAN  
COMEUR  
NNNN