



Notification Number: 1996/331/UK

## **Fresh Meat(Beef Controls)Regulations((Northern Ireland)1996.**

Date received : 23/08/1996

End of Standstill : Closed

Invocation of the Emergency Procedure : Yes

### Message

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

INSTITUT BELGE DE NORMALISATION,  
ATT. M. CROON

INSPECTION DU TRAVAIL ET DES MINES  
VIA MINISTERE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES  
ATT. M. WEBER

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. J. NULTY

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 (BMWI)  
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. TOLONEN

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 (96) D/51513  
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC, 88/182/EEC AND 94/10/EC

NOTIFIKATION - NOTIFIZIERUNG - NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICACION  
NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICA - KENNISGEVING - NOTIFICACAO - ILMOITUS  
ANMÄLAN : 96/0331/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 : 9601513.EN

**1. Structured Information Line**

TLX 001 IND- 96 0331 UK- EN ----- 960823 --- ---

**2. Member State**

United Kingdom

**3. Department Responsible**



Department of Trade and Industry: Standards and Technical Regulations Directorate

**3. Originating Department**

Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland

**4. Notification Number**

96/331/UK

**5. Title**

Fresh Meat(Beef Controls)Regulations((Northern Ireland)1996.

**6. Products Concerned**

Bovine meat, meat products containing bovine meat, and bovine offal.(HS codes 0201, 0202, 0206 10, 0206 21-29, 1602 50, 1602 90).

**7. Notification Under Another Act**

Not applicable

**8. Main Content**

These regulations consolidate and replace with amendments the provisions of the Beef(Emergency Control)Order(Northern Ireland)1996(Statutory Rule number S.R. 1996 no. 132), as amended, by creating an offence of selling for human consumption meat derived from bovine animals slaughtered on or after 29 March 1996 which at time of slaughter, by reference to documentary evidence, were more than two years and six months old.

The meat from bovine animals which belong to a herd registered under the Beef Assurance Scheme, or which were born, reared and slaughtered in any of the countries listed in Schedule 2 of the Regulations, is exempt from this prohibition on sale (Regulation 3(3)).

The operating rules for the Beef Assurance Scheme are set out in Regulations 4 to 6 and Schedule 1 of the draft regulations.

**9. Brief Statement of Grounds**

This measure replaces the Beef(Emergency Control)Order(Northern Ireland)1996 which was a temporary public health measure under Article 12 of the Food Safety(Northern Ireland)Order 1991. The UK Government considers that such continuing controls, which address the concerns identified by the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee(SEAC), remain necessary, in particular in view of the need to avoid the risk that lack of consumer confidence in the safety of beef might result in short term disruption and longer term damage to the structure of the market, and therefore to the interests of consumers.



The exclusion from the food chain of meat from older cattle has been approved at the EC level, and the Community is co-financing a scheme for the purchase and slaughter, with subsequent destruction, of the carcasses of cattle over 30 months(Commission Regulation(EC) No. 716/96, Official journal No.L99, of 19 April 1996).

The exemption of herds under the Beef Assurance Scheme, reflects the need to bring some market stability to those extensively reared specialist beef herds which have had no cases of BSE, and which meet the other strict eligibility criteria of the scheme, as set out in schedule 1 of the attached draft Regulations.

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

- i. Fresh Meat(Beef Controls)Regulations(Northern Ireland)1996.
- ii. Not applicable
- iii. Not applicable

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

Yes

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

The replacement of the Beef(Emergency Control)Order (Northern Ireland)1996,with more permanent legislation, is needed as swiftly as possible, given that this Order was introduced on 28 March as a temporary measure. The exemption of herds belonging to the Beef Assurance Scheme is also an urgent requirement, as there has been no market outlet for these animals since the start of the BSE crisis.

#### **13. Confidentiality**

No

#### **14. Fiscal measures**

Not applicable

D. WILLIAMSON  
COMEUR  
NNNN