



Notification Number: 2001/66/UK

(Draft) Offshore Chemicals Regulations 2001

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Message

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Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2001) D/50334
Directive 98/34/EC

Notifikation - Notifizierung - Γνωστοποίηση - Notificación - Notification - Notifica - Kennisgeving -
Notificação - Ilmoitus - Anmälan : 2001/66/UK.

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(MSG: 200100334.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2001 0066 UK EN 07-05-2001 06-02-2001 UK NOTIF 07-05-2001

2. Member State

United Kingdom

3. Department Responsible

Department of Trade and Industry
Standards and Technical Regulations Directorate

3. Originating Department

Department of Trade and Industry, Oil and Gas Directorate

4. Notification Number

2001/66/UK - COOC



5. Title

(Draft) Offshore Chemicals Regulations 2001

6. Products Concerned

All chemical substances or preparations used in connection with exploration, appraisal or exploitation of liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons in United Kingdom territorial waters or in designated areas of continental shelf.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

Operators of offshore installations will be required to obtain from the Secretary of State a permit to use or discharge any chemical substance or preparation. In compiling a Risk Assessment, operators will only be able to use chemicals which have been notified to and assessed by CEFAS (the Centre for Fisheries, Environment and Aquaculture Science) and placed on the list of notified chemicals to be found on their website. Chemicals suppliers wishing to market their products will therefore need to "pre-screen" at the substance level as part of their product development programmes. There will be criminal sanctions for using or discharging a chemical without a permit. The Regulations lay down an application procedure including a requirement to publicise the application. The Secretary of State can attach conditions to permits and charge fees to cover administration costs. Permits may be renewed, reviewed, varied, revoked and surrendered in prescribed circumstances. The Secretary of State shall keep a register of permits (including monitoring or other information provided to him in accordance with permit conditions). Operators are required in certain circumstances to notify the Secretary of State of accidents involving chemicals. There are powers to investigate whether the Regulations are being complied with and to monitor chemical use and discharge.

The UK will fulfil its obligation under Article 12 of Directive 98/34/EC (as amended) when these Regulations are officially published.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

These Regulations are being made to ensure that the United Kingdom fulfils its obligations under the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic ("OSPAR") by implementing OSPAR Decision 2000/2 on a Harmonised Mandatory Control System for the Use and Reduction of the Discharge of Offshore Chemicals. In exercising his powers under the Regulations, the Secretary of State will apply the standards laid down by that decision and the related OSPAR Recommendations 2000/4 and 2000/5.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

Draft Offshore Chemicals Regulations 2001
OSPAR Decision 2000/2
OSPAR Recommendation 2000/4
OSPAR Recommendation 2000/5
Guidance Note
Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999

The draft regulations seek to regulate the use of all chemical substances in or on offshore installations. This extends to a very large number of chemical substances, including those yet to be developed. It is not feasible to provide a risk assessment for all the chemicals involved.



11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

NO

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

NO

14. Fiscal measures

NO

David O'Sullivan
General Secretary
European Commission