EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations are made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 8(1) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (c. 16) in order to address failures of retained EU law to operate effectively and other deficiencies (in particular under section 8(2)(b), (c) and (g)) arising from the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union. They are also made in part using other powers to amend legislation that is deficient, where the deficiency does not arise from the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union.

Part 2 makes amendments to provisions in secondary legislation on genetically modified organisms that are out of date, specifically relating to devolution issues in risk assessment and record-keeping.

The remainder of the Regulations make amendments to legislation in the field of environmental protection and, in particular, amend legislation relating to the risk assessment, deliberate release, transboundary movements, traceability and labelling, unique identifiers, and placing on the market of genetically modified organisms. Part 3 amends subordinate legislation and Part 4 amends retained direct EU legislation.

An impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private or voluntary sector is foreseen.