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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2006 No. 482**

**Water Abstraction and Impoundment  
(Licensing) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006**

**PART 7**

**Offences**

**Defence to principal offences in respect of authorised activities**

**27.** A person shall not be guilty of an offence under regulation 25(1)(a), (b), or (e) where the contravention is a result of—

- (a) an accident which could not reasonably have been foreseen; or
- (b) natural causes which are exceptional and could not reasonably have been foreseen,

provided that—

- (i) all practicable steps are taken to prevent deterioration of the water environment;
- (ii) all practicable steps are taken as soon as is reasonably practicable to restore the water environment to its condition prior to the contravention; and
- (iii) particulars of the contravention are furnished to the Department as soon as is reasonably practicable. .