

2009 No. 192

HEALTH AND SAFETY

**The Health and Safety Information for Employees (Amendment)
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009**

Made - - - - - *15th May 2009*

Coming into operation - - - - - *15th June 2009*

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment(a), being the Department concerned(b), makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 17(1) to (6)(c), and 55(2) of, and paragraph 14(1) of Schedule 3 to, the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(d) (“the 1978 Order”).

The Regulations give effect without modifications to proposals submitted to it by the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland under Article 13(1A)(e) of the 1978 Order after the Executive had carried out consultations in accordance with Article 46(3)(f) of that Order

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Health and Safety Information for Employees (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 and shall come into operation on 15th June 2009.

(2) In these Regulations “the principal Regulations” means the Health and Safety Information for Employees Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991(g).

Amendments to the principal Regulations

2.—(1) The principal Regulations shall be amended as follows.

(2) In regulation 2(1) (Interpretation and application)—

(a) for the definition of “territorial waters” substitute—

““territorial sea” means the territorial sea of the United Kingdom adjacent to Northern Ireland and “within the territorial sea” includes on, over and under it;”;

(b) in paragraph (3) for “paragraph 1” substitute “paragraphs 2, 3 and 4”; and

(c) in paragraph (4) for “territorial waters” substitute “the territorial sea”.

(a) Formerly the Department of Economic Development; *see* S.I. 1982/846 (N.I. 11), Article 3 and S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1), Article 3(5)
(b) *See* Article 2(2) of S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)
(c) Article 17 must be read with S.I. 1992/1728 (N.I. 17), Articles 3(2) and 4(2)
(d) S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9); the general purposes of Part II referred to in Article 17(1) were extended by S.I. 1992/1728 (N.I. 17), Articles 3(1) and 4(1)
(e) Article 13(1) was substituted by S.I. 1998/2795 (N.I. 18), Article 4
(f) Article 46(3) was amended by S.I. 1998/2795 (N.I. 18), Article 6(1) and Schedule 1, paragraphs 8 and 18(c)
(g) S.R. 1991 No. 105, as amended by S.R. 1996 No. 512, S.R. 1999 No. 150 and S.R. 2007 No. 291

(3) In regulation 3 (Meaning of and revisions to the approved poster and leaflet), in sub-paragraph (2)(b) for “9 months” substitute “five years”.

(4) In regulation 5 (Provision of further information)—

(a) for paragraph (1) substitute—

“(1) An employer relying on compliance with regulation 4(1)(a) shall, subject to paragraph (2), ensure that the following information is clearly and indelibly written on the poster in the appropriate space—

- (a) the name of the enforcing authority for the premises where the poster is displayed; and
- (b) the address of the office of the enforcing authority for the area in which those premises are situated; or
- (c) information as to how any of his employees may obtain the information referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b).”

(b) for paragraph (3) substitute—

“(3) An employer who gives to his employee a leaflet pursuant to regulation 4(1)(b) shall give with the leaflet a written notice containing—

- (a) the name of the enforcing authority for the premises where the employee works; and
- (b) the address of the office of the enforcing authority for the area in which those premises are situated; or
- (c) information as to how any of his employees may obtain the information referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b).”

(5) For Schedule 1 substitute the Schedule set out in the Schedule to these Regulations.

Application within the territorial sea

3. These Regulations shall apply to and in relation to premises and activities within the territorial sea to the same extent as provided for in regulation 2(3) and (4) and Schedule 1 of the principal Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment on 15th May 2009.



M. Bohill

A senior officer of the Department of Enterprise, trade and Investment

SCHEDULE TO BE SUBSTITUTED FOR SCHEDULE 1 TO THE
HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES
REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1991

“SCHEDULE 1

Regulations 2(3) and (4)

PREMISES AND ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL
SEA

Interpretation

1.—(1) In this Schedule—

“activity” includes a diving project;

“designated area” means any area designated by Order under section 1(7) of the Continental Shelf Act 1964(a) and “within a designated area” includes over and under it;

“diving project” has the meaning assigned to it by regulation 2(1) of the Diving at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005(b) save that it includes an activity in which a person takes part as a diver wearing an atmospheric pressure suit and without breathing in air or other gas at a pressure greater than atmospheric pressure;

“energy structure” means a fixed or floating structure, other than a vessel, for producing energy from wind or water;

“offshore installation” shall be construed in accordance with paragraph 2(2) and (3);

“supplementary unit” means a fixed or floating structure, other than a vessel, for providing energy, information or substances to an offshore installation;

“stand-by vessel” means a vessel which is ready to give assistance in the event of an emergency on or near an offshore installation;

“vessel” includes a hovercraft and any floating structure which is capable of being staffed.

(2) For the purposes of this Schedule, any structures and devices on top of a well shall be treated as forming part of the well.

(3) Any reference in this Schedule to premises and activities includes a reference to any person, article or substance on those premises or engaged in, or, as the case may be, used or for use in connection with any such activity, but does not include a reference to an aircraft which is airborne.

Offshore installations

2.—(1) This paragraph shall apply to and in relation to—

(a) any offshore installation and any activity on it;

(b) any activity in connection with an offshore installation, or any activity which is immediately preparatory thereto, whether carried on from the installation itself, on or from a vessel or in any other manner, other than—

(a) 1964 c. 29; section 1 was amended by the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act 1982 (1982 c. 23), section 37 and Schedule 3, paragraph 1

(b) S.R. 2005 No. 45, as amended by S.R. 2007 No. 247

- (i) transporting, towing or navigating the installation; and
- (ii) any activity in or from a vessel being used as a stand-by vessel;
- (c) a diving project involving—
 - (i) the survey and preparation of the sea bed for an offshore installation;
 - (ii) the survey and restoration of the sea bed consequent on the removal of an offshore installation.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), in this paragraph, “offshore installation” means a structure which is, or is to be, or has been, used while standing or stationed in water, or on the foreshore or other land intermittently covered with water—

- (a) for the exploitation, or exploration with a view to exploitation, of mineral resources by means of a well;
- (b) for the storage of gas in or under the shore or bed of any water or the recovery of gas so stored;
- (c) for the conveyance of things by means of a pipe; or
- (d) mainly for the provision of accommodation for persons who work on or from a structure falling within any of the provisions of this sub-paragraph,

together with any supplementary unit which is ordinarily connected to it, and all the connections.

- (3) Any reference in sub-paragraph (2) to a structure or unit does not include—
 - (a) a structure which is connected with dry land by a permanent structure providing access at all times and for all purposes;
 - (b) a well;
 - (c) a structure which has ceased to be used for any of the purposes specified in sub-paragraph (2) and has since been used for a purpose not so specified;
 - (d) a mobile structure which has been taken out of use and is not yet being moved with a view to its being used for any of the purposes specified in sub-paragraph (2); and
 - (e) any part of a pipeline.

Wells

3.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), this paragraph applies to and in relation to—

- (a) a well and any activity in connection with it; and
- (b) an activity which is immediately preparatory to any activity in head (a).

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) includes keeping a vessel on station for the purpose of working on a well but otherwise does not include navigation or an activity connected with navigation.

Pipelines

4.—(1) This paragraph applies to and in relation to—

- (a) any pipeline;
- (b) any pipeline works;
- (c) the following activities in connection with pipeline works—
 - (i) the loading, unloading, fuelling or provisioning of a vessel;
 - (ii) the loading, unloading, fuelling, repair and maintenance of an aircraft on a vessel,
 being in either case a vessel which is engaged in pipeline works.

(2) In this paragraph—

“pipeline” means a pipe or system of pipes for the conveyance of any thing, together with—

- (a) any apparatus for inducing or facilitating the flow of any thing through, or through part of, the pipe or system;
- (b) any apparatus for treating or cooling any thing which is to flow through, or through part of, the pipe or system;
- (c) valves, valve chambers and similar works which are annexed to, or incorporated in the course of, the pipe or system;
- (d) apparatus for supplying energy for the operation of any such apparatus or works as are mentioned in heads (a) to (c);
- (e) apparatus for the transmission of information for the operation of the pipe or system;
- (f) apparatus for the cathodic protection of the pipe or system; and
- (g) a structure used or to be used solely for the support of a part of the pipe or system; but not including a pipeline of which no initial or terminal point is situated in the United Kingdom, within the territorial sea adjacent to the United Kingdom, or within a designated area;

“pipeline works” means—

- (a) assembling or placing a pipeline or length of pipeline including the provision of internal or external protection for it;
- (b) inspecting, testing, maintaining, adjusting, repairing, altering or renewing a pipeline or length of pipeline;
- (c) changing the position of or dismantling or removing a pipeline or length of pipeline;
- (d) opening the bed of the sea for the purposes of the works mentioned in heads (a) to (c), and tunnelling or boring for those purposes;
- (e) any activities incidental to the activities described in heads (a) to (d);
- (f) a diving project in connection with any of the works mentioned in heads (a) to (e) or for the purpose of determining whether a place is suitable as part of the site of a proposed pipeline and the carrying out of surveying operations for settling the route of a proposed pipeline.

Mines

5.—(1) This paragraph applies to and in relation to a mine within the territorial sea or extending beyond it, and any activity in connection with it, while it is being worked.

(2) In this paragraph “mine” has the same meaning as in the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(a).

Other activities

6.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), this paragraph applies to and in relation to—

- (a) the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, maintenance, cleaning, use, operation, demolition and dismantling of any building, energy structure or other structure, not being in any case a vessel, or any preparation for any such activity;
- (b) the transfer of people or goods between a vessel or aircraft and a structure (including a building) mentioned in head (a);
- (c) the loading, unloading, fuelling or provisioning of a vessel;

(a) 1969 c. 6 (N.I.)

- (d) a diving project;
 - (e) the construction, reconstruction, finishing, refitting, repair, maintenance, cleaning or breaking up of a vessel except when carried out by the master or any officer or member of the crew of that vessel;
 - (f) the maintaining on a station of a vessel which would be an offshore installation were it not a structure to which paragraph 2(3)(d) applies;
 - (g) the operation of a cable for transmitting electricity from an energy structure to shore;
 - (h) the transfer of people or goods between a vessel or aircraft and a structure mentioned in head (f).
- (2) This paragraph shall not apply—
- (a) to a case where paragraph 2, 3, 4 or 5 applies; or
 - (b) to vessels which are registered outside the United Kingdom and are on passage through the territorial sea.”

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Health and Safety Information for Employees Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991 (S.R. 1991 No. 105), which require information relating to health, safety and welfare to be furnished to employees by means of posters or leaflets in the form approved and published for the purposes of the Regulations by the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland.

The 1991 Regulations require the name and address of the enforcing authority to be written in the appropriate place on the poster (regulation 5(1)); and where the leaflet is given, the same information should be specified in a written notice accompanying it (regulation 5(3)). These Regulations amend regulation 5(1) and 5(3) of the 1991 Regulations to enable an employer alternatively to provide information as to how any of his employees may obtain the name and address of the enforcing authority.

The Regulations also amend regulation 3(2)(b) of the 1991 Regulations by increasing the period in which an employer can continue to display the unrevised approved poster and distribute the unrevised approved leaflet, from 9 months to five years.

The Regulations also substitute for the definition of “territorial waters” the definition of “territorial sea” (*regulation 2(2)*) and a new Schedule 1 (*regulation 2(5) and Schedule*) in the 1991 Regulations, to update the provisions relating to the application of those Regulations within the territorial sea.

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