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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations amend the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1929 (“the 1929 Act”).

The principal changes made by these Regulations are as follows.

A new section 1A is inserted into the 1929 Act to clarify the scope of a local authority’s powers in relation to a licence.

Section 3 of the 1929 Act presently sets out the procedures for appeals from refusals by a local authority to grant licences. Those appeals are made to the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland. A new section 3 is substituted to introduce greater procedural protections both in relation to licensing decisions and appeals against those decisions. It does so by—

- (a) introducing a new procedure that must be followed before the licensing decision is taken; and
- (b) providing for an appeal to an independent Tribunal from such licensing decision.

This new section 3 applies the relevant provisions of the Deregulation (Model Appeal Provisions) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997, with modifications for the purposes of these procedures and appeals.