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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1997 No. 1993**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**The Offshore Electricity and Noise Regulations 1997**

*Made* - - - - *14th August 1997*  
*Laid before Parliament* *21st August 1997*  
*Coming into force* - - *21st February 1998*

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 15(1), (3)(a) and (9) and 82(3)(a) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974<sup>(1)</sup> and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, and for the purpose of giving effect without modifications to proposals submitted to him by the Health and Safety Commission under section 11(2)(d) of the said Act of 1974 after the carrying out by the said Commission of consultations in accordance with section 50(3) of that Act, hereby makes the following Regulations:

**Citation and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Offshore Electricity and Noise Regulations 1997 and shall come into force on 21st February 1998.

**Amendment of the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989**

2. For regulation 31 of the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989<sup>(2)</sup> there shall be substituted the following regulation—

**“Application**

**31.** These Regulations shall apply—

- (a) in Great Britain; and
- (b) outside Great Britain as sections 1 to 59 and 80 to 82 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 apply by virtue of the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application outside Great Britain) Order 1995<sup>(3)</sup>.”

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(1) 1974 c. 37; sections 15 and 50 were amended by the Employment Protection Act 1975 (c. 71), Schedule 15, paragraphs 6 and 16 respectively; the general purposes of Part I referred to in section 15(1) were extended by section 1(1) of the Offshore Safety Act 1992 (c. 15).  
(2) S.I.1989/635.  
(3) S.I. 1995/263.

### **Amendment of the Noise at Work Regulations 1989**

3. For regulation 3 of the Noise at Work Regulations 1989<sup>(4)</sup> there shall be substituted the following regulation—

#### **“Application**

- 3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), these Regulations shall apply—
- (a) in Great Britain; and
  - (b) outside Great Britain as sections 1 to 59 and 80 to 82 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 apply by virtue of the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application outside Great Britain) Order 1995.
- (2) The duties imposed by these Regulations shall not extend to—
- (a) the master or crew of a sea-going ship or to the employer of such persons, in relation to the normal ship-board activities of a ship’s crew under the direction of the master; or
  - (b) the crew of any aircraft or hovercraft which is moving under its own power or any other person on board any such aircraft or hovercraft who is at work in connection with its operation.”.

#### **Revocation**

4.—(1) The following provisions of the Offshore Installations (Operational Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations 1976<sup>(5)</sup> are revoked—

- (a) in regulation 1(2) the definitions of “electrical equipment”, “fixed installation”, “hazardous area”, “helicopter landing officer”, “mechanical equipment”, “mobile installation”, “radiotelephone operator” and “work permit”; and
- (b) regulations 11 and 17.

(2) In paragraph 67 of the Offshore Installations and Wells (Design and Construction, etc.) Regulations 1996<sup>(6)</sup>—

- (a) the words “Noise and” in the headnote; and
- (b) the words “noise or” in sub-paragraph (1),

are revoked.

*J. Prescott*  
Secretary of State,  
Department of the Environment, Transport and  
the Regions

14th August 1997

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<sup>(4)</sup> S.I. 1989/1790, amended by S.I. 1992/2966, 1996/341.

<sup>(5)</sup> S.I. 1976/1019; relevant amending instruments are S.I. 1989/1672, 1995/738, 1996/341.

<sup>(6)</sup> S.I. 1996/913.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These Regulations amend the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 and the Noise at Work Regulations 1989 so that they now apply outside Great Britain as the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 applies, as well as applying in Great Britain.

The Regulations revoke regulations 11 and 17 (electrical equipment) of the Offshore Installations (Operational Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations 1976 and certain definitions in regulation 1(2) of those Regulations which are redundant by reason of the revocation effected by this or earlier instruments. They also revoke reference to noise in paragraph 67 (noise and vibration of plant) of Schedule 1 to the Offshore Installations and Wells (Design and Construction, etc.) Regulations 1996.

A cost benefit assessment prepared in respect of these Regulations is available from the Health and Safety Executive, Safety Policy Directorate, Offshore Policy Section, Rose Court, 2 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HS.