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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2007 No. 1948**

**The Electricity (Offshore Generating Stations)  
(Safety Zones) (Application Procedures  
and Control of Access) Regulations 2007**

**PART 3**

**CONTROL OF ACCESS TO SAFETY ZONES**

**Vessels and activities permitted in safety zones**

**9.—(1)** The prohibitions under section 96(1) on a vessel entering and remaining in a safety zone shall not apply if it is a vessel—

- (a) belonging to, or acting under the authority of, a government department, the Environment Agency or the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, and engaged in
  - (i) the provision of services for,
  - (ii) the transport of persons or goods to or from, or
  - (iii) the inspection of,

any existing or proposed renewable energy installation in that safety zone;

- (b) belonging to a United Kingdom police force or the armed forces of the Crown, where that force is, or those forces are, acting in the course of its or their powers and duties;
- (c) belonging to or acting on behalf of a general lighthouse authority, where it is operating within the area specified in section 193(1) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 as the area of that authority;
- (d) belonging to, or acting on behalf of a harbour authority, where that body is acting in the course of its powers and duties;
- (e) belonging to, or acting on behalf of, the Crown Estate, where that body is acting in the exercise of its rights established in a lease or licence relating to a renewable energy installation in that safety zone;
- (f) belonging to, or acting on behalf of, the holder of a licence granted under section 6(1)(b)(1) of the Electricity Act 1989(2) where that person is carrying out activities which—
  - (i) it is authorised by the licence to carry on; and
  - (ii) relate to offshore transmission (within the meaning of section 92(6));
- (g) acting in connection with the saving or attempted saving of life or property, or in connection with training exercises relating to the saving of life or property;
- (h) entering or remaining in a safety zone owing to stress of weather or when in distress: or

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(1) Section 6(1)(b) was substituted by section 136 of the Energy Act 2004.

(2) 1989 c.29.

- (i) entering or remaining in a safety zone in connection with an activity mentioned in paragraph (2).
- (2) The prohibitions under section 96(2) on a person carrying out activities wholly or partly in a safety zone shall not apply—
  - (a) in connection with the construction, service, maintenance or decommissioning by an owner or operator of any existing or proposed renewable energy installation in that safety zone;
  - (b) in connection with the laying, inspection, testing, repair, alteration, renewal or removal of any submarine cable in a safety zone which relates to any existing or proposed renewable energy installation in that zone;
  - (c) in connection with monitoring activities required to be undertaken by or on behalf of an owner or operator in order to comply with the terms of a statutory consent or licence relating to an existing or proposed renewable energy installation in that safety zone, including but not limited to—
    - (i) bird monitoring
    - (ii) benthic investigations; and
    - (iii) sampling of fish densities; or
  - (d) in connection with activities undertaken in accordance with paragraph (1).