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September 2017

In this month's update...

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New on NetRegs



Videos and Case studies

Have you checked out our Video and Case studies topic on the NetRegs website?

We have produced a selection of videos showcasing real life, good environmental business practice examples, organised under the following headings:

- Air Pollution
- Carbon Reduction and Efficiency
- Emergency Response
- Environmental Management
- Land
- Materials, Fuels and Equipment
- Transport
- Waste
- Water

Visit the [videos and case studies topic](#) on NetRegs.

The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill - Update

The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill, previously known as the 'Great Repeal Bill', passed its second reading in the House of Commons on the 11 September 2017. MPs will next consider the Bill in a Committee of the whole House on a date yet to be announced.

To view a summary of the key points of the Bill, visit the [future legislation pages on the NetRegs website](#).

New Legislation



Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (Amendment No.2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 SR198

The EIA Directive ensures that projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are subject to an environmental assessment prior to their approval or authorisation. These Regulations amend the

existing EIA (Agriculture) Regulations 2007 to bring into effect changes, made in 2014 by EU Directive 2014/52/EU.

The following are some of the main changes made by the 2014 Directive, which this Statutory Rule gives effect to:

- A full and detailed definition of the EIA process
- Introduction of a co-ordinated procedure for projects that are subject to the Habitats or Wild Birds Directives as well as the EIA Directive
- Introduction of a more detailed list of information that the applicant must provide for the screening application
- Clarification of the options for screening and amendments to the information that is required when screening projects to determine whether the EIA Directive applies
- Introduces a requirement that the competent authorities must publish their screening decisions and explain the reasons why an EIA is needed or not.
- Amendments to the information to be included in the environmental statement
- A requirement that the applicant must ensure that an environmental statement is prepared by competent experts, and that the competent authority must have sufficient expertise to assess the environmental statement.
- Amendment to take into account the new minimum period of 30 days for public consultations
- Details what information should now be provided within decision notices.

For further information you can read the full Statutory Rule here
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2017/198/contents/made>

The Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulations 2017

The Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulations 2017 impose a common set of standards and functionality for the provision of certain alternative fuel infrastructure (electricity and hydrogen for vehicles and seagoing ships at berth). This will ensure that users of electric or hydrogen powered vehicles and berthed seagoing ships can be confident of using the right infrastructure to the appropriate standard.

The Regulations come into force on 09 October 2017

You can view the full text of the regulations here:

[The Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulations 2017](#)

EU Regulation 2017/1505/EU: Amending Annexes I, II and III to Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)

This regulation consists of 3 articles and an annex; which in turn contains annexes I, II and III of Regulation 1221/2009, revised and adapted according to the requirements of ISO 14001:2015.

Companies are required to adapt their EMAS management systems before 14 September 2018, which is also the deadline date for transitioning environmental management systems to ISO 14001:2015.

The Regulations came into force on 20 September 2017

You can view the full text of the regulations here:

[EU Regulation 2017/1505/EU](#)

Updates

Extreme Flooding Event 22/23 August 2017 – Technical Bulletin Providing Advice to Farmers and Growers

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs continues to provide help and support to farmers affected by flooding in the North West. To support that work the Department has issued a detailed technical bulletin to assist farmers working to reinstated their land.

You can download the Technical Bulletin and access a list of useful contacts here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/daera-issues-further-flood-recovery-advice-farmers>



CAFRE Management Notes (September 2017)

Management Notes are prepared by staff from the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE). CAFRE is a college within the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

The notes provide Information, guidance and useful advice from CAFRE advisors.

You can read the notes on the [DAERA website](#).



EU Ban on inefficient vacuum cleaners

Inefficient vacuum cleaners that produce more heat and noise than suction will be banned once stocks run out.

Vacuum cleaners using more than 900 watts and



emitting more than 80 decibels will be banned when stocks run out.

You can view the EU Regulation 665/2013 on energy labelling of vacuum cleaners here:

[EU Regulation 665/2013](#)

Agreement to Generate Renewable Energy from Food Waste

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and Granville Ecopark Ltd (GECO) have signed a Prosperity Agreement pledging to work together to divert more food waste from landfill and use it to generate renewable energy and organic fertilisers. This is the sixth such agreement the NIEA has signed.

David Small, CEO of NIEA said: "The Prosperity Agreement Programme goes from strength to strength, with Granville Ecopark representing an important addition to the portfolio. NIEA is excited to partner with progressive companies who share our goals in ensuring effective environmental protection alongside economic success."

You can read more about the recent prosperity agreement signing here:

[Agreement to Generate Renewable Energy from Food Waste](#)



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