



Energy Act 2013

2013 CHAPTER 32

PART 3

NUCLEAR REGULATION

CHAPTER 4

FUNCTIONS OF THE ONR

Exercise of functions: general

92 Directions from Secretary of State

- (1) The Secretary of State may give the ONR a direction as to the exercise by it of—
 - (a) its functions generally, or
 - (b) any of its functions specifically.
- (2) A direction given by the Secretary of State under subsection (1)—
 - (a) may modify a function of the ONR, but
 - (b) must not confer functions on the ONR (other than a function of which it was deprived by a previous direction given under this section).
- (3) The Secretary of State may give the ONR such directions as appear to the Secretary of State to be necessary or desirable in the interests of national security.
- (4) A direction given by the Secretary of State under subsection (3) may—
 - (a) modify a function of the ONR,
 - (b) confer a function on the ONR.
- (5) A direction under subsection (1) or (3) must not be given in relation to the exercise of a regulatory function in a particular case.

Changes to legislation: Energy Act 2013, Cross Heading: Exercise of functions: general is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (6) If the Secretary of State is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances relating to national security which justify giving a direction under this subsection, the Secretary of State may give the ONR a direction as to the exercise by the ONR of a regulatory function in a particular case.
- (7) A direction given under subsection (6) must be for the nuclear security purposes.
- (8) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a copy of any direction given under this section.
- (9) Subsection (8) does not apply to a direction under subsection (6) if the Secretary of State considers that publishing the direction would be contrary to the interests of national security; but, in that event, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a memorandum stating that such a direction has been given and the date on which it was given.

Commencement Information

II S. 92 in force at 1.4.2014 by [S.I. 2014/251](#), **art. 4**

F193 Compliance with nuclear safeguards obligations

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Textual Amendments

F1 [S. 93](#) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [Nuclear Safeguards Act 2018 \(c. 15\)](#), s. 6(2), **Sch. para. 6**; [S.I. 2020/1547](#), reg. 2(b)

94 Consent of Secretary of State for certain communications

- (1) The ONR must not issue any communication to which this section applies except with the consent of the Secretary of State.
- (2) This section applies to—
- (a) any—
- (i) security guidance, or
- (ii) statement of the ONR's nuclear security policy,
- that the ONR considers concerns any matter to which any government policy on national security relates;
- (b) any other communication of a description that the Secretary of State has directed should be submitted to the Secretary of State before being issued.
- This is subject to subsection (3).
- (3) This section does not apply to—
- (a) a code of practice issued under section 79;
- (b) the ONR's strategy or annual plan or a report under paragraph 24 of Schedule 7;
- (c) advice given in a particular case.

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- (4) In this section—
- “government policy on national security” means any current policy which relates to national security and—
- (a) has been published by or on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, or
 - (b) has been notified to the ONR by the Secretary of State;
- “security guidance” means any guidance to which the ONR's nuclear security policy is relevant;
- “the ONR's nuclear security policy” means the ONR's policy with respect to the exercise of its functions, or the functions of inspectors, so far as relevant to the nuclear security purposes.
- (5) The Secretary of State may give a direction under subsection (2)(b) in relation to a description of communication only if it appears to the Secretary of State—
- (a) that—
 - (i) a communication of that description might contain security guidance or information about the ONR's nuclear security policy, or
 - (ii) the ONR's nuclear security policy might otherwise be relevant to such a communication, and
 - (b) that such a communication might concern any matter to which any government policy on national security relates.
- (6) The Secretary of State may give the ONR a general consent in relation to the issue of a particular description of communication which would otherwise fall within subsection (2)(a).
- (7) If the Secretary of State has given such a general consent, the ONR need not seek the Secretary of State's particular consent in relation to the issue of a communication of that description unless directed by the Secretary of State to do so.

Commencement Information

I2 S. 94 in force at 1.4.2014 by [S.I. 2014/251](#), [art. 4](#)

95 Power to arrange for exercise of functions by others

- (1) If the condition in subsection (2) is satisfied, the ONR may make arrangements with a government department or other person for that department or person to perform any of the ONR's functions, with or without payment.
- (2) That condition is that the Secretary of State considers that the function or functions in question can appropriately be performed by the government department or other person.

Commencement Information

I3 S. 95 in force at 1.4.2014 by [S.I. 2014/251](#), [art. 4](#)

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96 Co-operation between ONR and Health and Safety Executive

- (1) The Health and Safety Executive and the ONR must enter into and maintain arrangements with each other for securing co-operation and the exchange of information in connection with the carrying out of any of their functions.
- (2) The Health and Safety Executive and the ONR must—
 - (a) review the arrangements from time to time, and
 - (b) revise them when they consider it appropriate to do so.

Commencement Information

I4 S. 96 in force at 1.4.2014 by [S.I. 2014/251](#), [art. 4](#)

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 68(4) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 302\(4\)](#)