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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2009 No. 223**

**GAS  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**The Gas Importation and Storage Zone  
(Designation of Area) Order 2009**

*Made - - - - 11th February 2009*

*Laid before Parliament 18th February 2009*

*Coming into force - - 6th April 2009*

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 11th day of February 2009

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred on Her by section 1(5) of the Energy Act 2008<sup>(1)</sup> is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order as follows—

1. This Order may be cited as the Gas Importation and Storage Zone (Designation of Area) Order 2009, and comes into force on 6th April 2009.

2. The rights to which section 1 of the Energy Act 2008 (exploitation of areas outside the territorial sea for gas importation and storage) applies shall be exercisable in those areas specified in the Schedule to the Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Pollution) (Limits) Regulations 1996<sup>(2)</sup>.

*Judith Simpson*  
Clerk of the Privy Council

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<sup>(1)</sup> 2008 c.32.

<sup>(2)</sup> S.I. 1996/2128; there is one relevant amending instrument: S.I. 1997/506.

**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Order designates the area of the Gas Importation and Storage Zone, an area beyond the United Kingdom's territorial sea in which exclusive rights of exploration and exploitation for gas importation and storage purposes are vested in the Crown under section 1 of the Energy Act 2008. These rights arise under Part V of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Gas Importation and Storage Zone ("GISZ") will be co-extensive with the area within which the United Kingdom already exercises jurisdiction with respect to marine environmental matters. The co-ordinates for the GISZ are those set out in the Schedule to the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution) (Limits) Regulations 1996, as amended by the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution) (Limits) Regulations 1997. The same area was designated as a Renewable Energy Zone for the purposes of section 84 of the Energy Act 2004, by the Renewable Energy Zone (Designation of Area) Order 2004.

A map of the Gas Importation and Storage Zone is available at [www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk); it can be found at "Law of the Sea", then link to "UK limits", and can be downloaded at up to A3 size. Copies can be obtained from The Law of the Sea Division, UK Hydrographic Office, Taunton, TA1 2DN.

No impact assessment has been made of this Order, but an impact assessment was made of the Energy Bill as a whole, of which this Order was always envisaged as a key feature: <http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file46023.pdf> (from page 47).