The Secretary of State is a Minister designated\(^1\) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972\(^2\) (“the 1972 Act”) in relation to electronic communications. These Regulations make provision for a purpose mentioned in section 2(2) of the 1972 Act and it appears to the Secretary of State that it is expedient for certain references to provisions of EU instruments to be construed as references to those provisions as amended from time to time.

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2(2) of, and paragraph 1A\(^3\) of Schedule 2 to, the 1972 Act and by section 56 of the Finance Act 1973\(^4\) (“the 1973 Act”) and, in the case of section 56 of the 1973 Act, with the consent of the Treasury.

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\(^1\) S.I. 2001/3495. See article 2 of, and Schedule 1 to, these Regulations. There are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

\(^2\) 1972 c.68. Section 2(2) was amended by section 27(1)(a) of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 (c.51) and by Part 1 of the Schedule to the European Union (Amendment) Act 2008 (c.7). In so far as these Regulations deal with matters that are within the devolved competence of Scottish Ministers, the power of the Secretary of State to make regulations in relation to those matters in or as regards Scotland is preserved by section 57(1) of the Scotland Act 1998 (c.46).

\(^3\) Paragraph 1A of Schedule 2 was inserted by section 28 of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 and amended by Part 1 of the Schedule to the European Union (Amendment) Act 2008 and by article 3 of and paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to S.I. 2007/1388.

\(^4\) 1973 c.51. Section 56 was amended by S.I. 2011/1043; there are other amendments not relevant to these Regulations.