EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations implement Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment in respect of the dismantling or decommissioning of nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors.

Regulations 3 to 19 make amendments to the Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations 1999 ("the NREIAR 1999"). In summary:

- (a) the amendments to regulation 3 (in regulation 4) make provision about the application of the regulations to projects relating to civil emergencies and in exceptional cases;
- (b) new regulation 4A (as inserted by regulation 6) makes provision about the coordination of environmental impact assessments under the NREIAR 1999 and assessments under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017;
- (c) the amendments to regulation 5 (in regulation 7) make changes relating to the preparation, content and form of an environmental statement;
- (d) regulations 9, 9A, 10 and 10A (as inserted by regulation 11) set out new provisions relating to publicity in newspapers and further information, and the publication of information on the ONR's website;
- (e) regulation 10B (as inserted by regulation 11) requires the ONR to reach a conclusion about the likely significant effects of a project on the environment and human health before deciding to grant or refuse to grant consent for dismantling or decommissioning;
- (f) regulation 10C (as inserted by regulation 11) makes changes to the procedure relating to the consent decision;
- (g) the amendments to regulation 13 (in regulation 14) make changes to the procedure where there is a change or extension to a project.

Regulations 20 and 21 make amendments to the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 respectively.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sector is foreseen. An Explanatory Memorandum and a transposition note are available with these Regulations on www.legislation.gov.uk. Copies have also been placed in the Libraries of both Houses of Parliament.