
WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2007 No. 717

The Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations 2007

PART 1

General

Title, commencement and application

- 1.—(1) The title of these Regulations is the Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations 2007.
- (2) These Regulations come into force on 15 March 2007.
- (3) These Regulations apply in relation to Wales.

Definitions

- 2.—(1) In these Regulations—
 - “action plan” (“*cynllun gweithredu*”) means an action plan required by regulation 11;
 - “agglomeration” (“*crynhoad*”) has the meaning given in regulation 5(2);
 - “air quality standards” (“*safonau ansawdd aer*”) means limit values, target values and long-term objectives;
 - “alert threshold” (“*trothwy rhybuddio*”) means an alert threshold set out in Schedule 3;
 - “ambient air” (“*aer amgylchynol*”) means outdoor air in the troposphere, excluding work places;
 - “assessment” (“*asesu*”) means any method used to measure, calculate, predict or estimate the concentration of a pollutant;
 - “attainment date” (“*dyddiad cyrhaeddiad*”) means a date by which—
 - (a) a limit value is required to be attained; or
 - (b) a target value should be attained, insofar as this is possible;
 - “concentration” (“*crynodiad*”) means—
 - (a) for pollutants other than Group B pollutants, the concentration of the relevant pollutant in ambient air; or
 - (b) for Group B pollutants, the total content of the relevant pollutant in the PM₁₀ fraction in ambient air,and, in both cases, a reference to a concentration is to a concentration assessed by the National Assembly in accordance with these Regulations;
 - “Group A pollutants” (“*llygryddion Grŵp A*”) means benzene, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, PM₁₀ and sulphur dioxide;
 - “Group B pollutants” (“*llygryddion Grŵp B*”) means arsenic, benzo(a)pyrene, cadmium and nickel and their compounds;
 - “improvement plan” (“*cynllun gwella*”) means an improvement plan required by regulation 8;

“information threshold” (“*trothwy gwybodaeth*”) means the information threshold set out in Part 2 of Schedule 3;

“limit value” (“*gwerth terfyn*”) means a maximum permitted concentration of a Group A pollutant set out in Part 1 of Schedule 1;

“long-term objective” (“*amcan hirdymor*”) means a maximum concentration of ozone set out in Part 4 of Schedule 1;

“margin of tolerance” (“*ffin goddefaint*”) means an amount specified in Part 2 of Schedule 1 by which a limit value may be exceeded;

“oxides of nitrogen” (“*ocsidau nitrogen*”) means the sum of nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide added as parts per billion and expressed as nitrogen dioxide in microgrammes per cubic metre;

“ozone precursor substances” (“*rhagsylweddau osôn*”) means substances which contribute to the formation of ground level ozone, as referred to by regulation 18(1);

“PM_{2.5}” means particulate matter which passes through a size-selective inlet with a 50% efficiency cut-off at 2.5µm aerodynamic diameter;

“PM₁₀” means particulate matter which passes through a size-selective inlet with a 50% efficiency cut-off at 10µm aerodynamic diameter, in relation to which, in the case of assessments of Group B pollutants, the inlet is defined in EN 12341;

“pollutant” (“*llygrydd*”) means—

- (a) any Group A pollutant;
- (b) any Group B pollutant;
- (c) ozone; or
- (d) any pollutant to which Part 3 of these Regulations applies;

“polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons” (“*hydrocarbonau aromatig polysyclig*”) means—

- (a) those compounds listed at regulation 19(2); and
- (b) any other polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons the National Assembly chooses to monitor under regulation 19(1)(b);

“rural background station” (“*gorsaf cefndir gwledig*”) is to be interpreted in accordance with Part 3 of Schedule 5;

“target value” (“*gwerth targed*”) means a maximum concentration of a Group B pollutant as set out in Part 3 of Schedule 1 or ozone as set out in Part 4 of that Schedule; and

“zone” (“*parth*”) means one of the parts of the territory into which the National Assembly has divided Wales under regulation 5(1) for the purposes of Part 2 of these Regulations; and references to a zone, unless the context indicates otherwise, include an agglomeration.

(2) Other words and expressions used in these Regulations have the same meaning as in the following Directives—

- (a) Council Directive [96/62/EC](#) on ambient air quality assessment and management⁽¹⁾;
- (b) Council Directive [1999/30/EC](#) relating to limit values for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead in ambient air⁽²⁾;
- (c) Directive [2000/69/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to limit values for benzene and carbon monoxide in ambient air⁽³⁾;

(1) OJ No L 296, 21.11.96, p.55.

(2) OJ No L 163, 29.06.99, p.41.

(3) OJ No L 313, 13.12.00, p.12.

- (d) Directive [2002/3/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to ozone in ambient air⁽⁴⁾; and
- (e) Directive [2004/107/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air⁽⁵⁾.

Designation of National Assembly for Wales

3. The National Assembly is designated as the competent authority for the purposes of Article 3 (implementation and responsibilities) of Council Directive [96/62/EC](#).

(4) OJ No L 67, 09.03.02, p.14.

(5) OJ No L 23, 26.01.05, p.3.