



Petroleum Act 1998

1998 CHAPTER 17

PART IV

ABANDONMENT OF OFFSHORE INSTALLATIONS

39 Regulations.

- (1) The Secretary of State may make regulations relating to the abandonment of offshore installations and submarine pipelines.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), regulations under this section may—
 - (a) prescribe standards in respect of the dismantling, removal and disposal of installations and pipelines;
 - (b) prescribe standards and safety requirements in respect of anything left in the water in cases where an installation or pipeline is not wholly removed;
 - (c) make provision for the prevention of pollution;
 - (d) make provision for inspection, including provision as to the payment of the costs of inspection;
 - (e) make provision as to the determination of the amount of any fees that are payable to the Secretary of State under this Part of this Act.
- (3) Regulations under this section may include provision making it an offence, in such cases as may be prescribed in the regulations, to contravene the regulations.
- (4) Where regulations under this section create an offence, they shall make provision as to the mode of trial and punishment of offenders; but—
 - (a) any provision as to punishment on summary conviction shall not authorise a fine exceeding the statutory maximum or imprisonment; and
 - (b) any provision as to punishment on conviction on indictment shall not authorise imprisonment for a term exceeding two years.
- (5) Before making regulations under this section the Secretary of State shall consult organisations in the United Kingdom appearing to him to be representative of those

Changes to legislation: Petroleum Act 1998, Section 39 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 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](#)

persons who will be affected by the regulations; and he shall not make regulations relating to the amount of any fees without the consent of the Treasury.

- (6) Regulations under this section shall be made by statutory instrument, which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. 4 applied (with modifications) (26.12.2023) by 2008 c. 32, s. 30(1AA)(1AB) (as inserted by Energy Act 2023 (c. 52), ss. 95(3), 334(3)(b))
- C2** S. 39(1) modified (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/672, arts. 1(2), 5, Sch. 2
S. 39(1) modified (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/1750 arts. 1(1), 4, Sch. 3

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 39(2)(e) omitted by [2023 c. 52 s. 299\(7\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 39(5) words omitted by [2023 c. 52 s. 299\(7\)\(b\)](#)