

1962. No. 247

[C]

**ATOMIC ENERGY AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES****The Radioactive Substances (Electronic Valves) Exemption Order  
(Northern Ireland), 1962**

ORDER, DATED 21ST DECEMBER, 1962, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER SECTIONS 2(6) AND (7), 4(2), 6(5) AND 7(4) OF THE RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT, 1960.

The Ministry of Health and Local Government, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Sections 2(6) and (7), 4(2), 6(5) and 7(4) of the Radioactive Substances Act, 1960(a), and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:—

*Citation and commencement*

1. This Order may be cited as the Radioactive Substances (Electronic Valves) Exemption Order (Northern Ireland), 1962, and shall come into operation on the 1st day of December, 1963.

*Interpretation*

2.—(1) In this Order:—

“the Act” means the Radioactive Substances Act, 1960;

“class 1 valve” means a valve in which—

- (a) the number of microcuries of radionuclides specified in column 1 of the Schedule, taking all those present together, does not exceed 0·1; and
- (b) the number of microcuries of radionuclides specified in column 2 of the Schedule, taking all those present together, does not exceed one;

“class 2 valve” means a valve in which—

- (a) the number of microcuries of radionuclides specified in column 1 of the Schedule, taking all those present together, exceeds 0·1; and
- (b) the number of microcuries of radionuclides specified in column 2 of the Schedule, taking all those present together, exceeds one;

“decay products” means, in relation to any radionuclide, the radionuclides succeeding it in the radioactive series in which it and they occur;

“refuse disposal authority” means a local authority within the meaning of the Public Health Acts (Northern Ireland), 1878 to 1962, acting in pursuance of statutory powers or duties relating to the removal and disposal of refuse;

and any reference to an exempted valve is a reference to a valve falling within Article 5(a) or such a valve incorporated in an article falling within Article 5(b), being either a valve so kept or used, or a valve incorporated in an article so kept or used, as to be within the exemption from registration granted by Article 3, or a valve falling within Article 5(a) incorporated in mobile radioactive apparatus in respect of which exemption from registration is granted by Article 8, and any reference to an exempted article is a reference

(a) 8 & 9 Eliz. 2. c. 34.

to an article falling within Article 5(b), being an article so kept or used as to be within the exemption from registration granted by Article 3, or an article which is mobile radioactive apparatus in respect of which exemption from registration is granted by Article 8.

(2) For the purpose of paragraph (a) of Article 7 and paragraph (1)(iii) of Article 10, all premises in the same occupation and lying within the same curtilage shall together be treated as the premises in respect of which the conditions in those paragraphs apply.

(2) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland), 1954(a), applies to the interpretation of this Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

3. Subject to the provisions of Articles 6 and 7, any person who, on any premises to which this Article applies which are used for the purposes of any undertaking carried on by him, keeps or uses or causes or permits to be kept or used any radioactive material to which this Article applies is hereby granted exemption from registration under Section 1 of the Act (which provides for the registration of persons who keep or use radioactive material) in respect of those premises and the keeping and use thereon of that radioactive material.

*Classes of premises to which exemption relates*

4. Article 3 does not apply to premises used for or in connection with the manufacture of radioactive material falling within Article 5 or for the storage of such material by the manufacturer, but, save as aforesaid, applies to premises of any class.

*Descriptions of radioactive material to which exemption relates*

5. Article 3 applies to radioactive material falling within either of the following descriptions,—

- (a) an electronic valve in which—
  - (i) there are no radionuclides other than one or more of those specified in the Schedule and its or their decay products; and
  - (ii) the number of microcuries of radionuclides specified in column 1 of the Schedule, taking all those present together, does not exceed one; and
  - (iii) the number of microcuries of radionuclides specified in column 2 of the Schedule, taking all those present together, does not exceed ten; and
  - (iv) the number of microcuries of any of the decay products of any radionuclide specified in the Schedule does not exceed the number of microcuries of that radionuclide;
- (b) any apparatus, equipment or appliance which is radioactive material solely because it incorporates an electronic valve or valves falling within paragraph (a).

*Exemption under Section 1 without limitation or condition*

6. The exemption granted by Article 3 in respect of the keeping and use of—

- (a) a class 1 valve not incorporated in an article; and
- (b) an article falling within Article 5(b),

is granted without any limitation or condition.

*Exemption under Section 1 subject to conditions*

7. The exemption granted by Article 3 in respect of the keeping and use of a class 2 valve not incorporated in an article is granted subject to the conditions that—

- (a) not more than ten class 2 valves are on the premises at any one time; and
- (b) when not in use, the valve is kept in a container (except when removed for any necessary testing or inspection) marked with, or having attached or affixed to it a label bearing, the words "Radioactive electronic valve" in letters of adequate size, distinctly and legibly printed and conspicuously visible.

*Exemption from registration under Section 3 of the Act*

8. Any person is hereby granted exemption from registration under Section 3 of the Act (which provides for the registration of mobile radioactive apparatus) in respect of mobile radioactive apparatus consisting of an article falling within Article 5(b), without any limitation or condition.

*Exclusion of certain descriptions of radioactive waste from Sections 6 and 7 of the Act.*

9. Radioactive waste falling within any of the following descriptions,—

- (a) waste which, immediately before it became waste, consisted of exempted class 1 valves or exempted articles incorporating class 1 valves only;
- (b) parts of exempted class 1 valves;
- (c) substances or articles which are radioactive waste solely because they have been contaminated in the course of the keeping or use of exempted class 1 valves or exempted articles incorporating class 1 valves only, or by contact with or proximity to other waste falling within either of the preceding paragraphs or this paragraph,

is hereby excluded—

- (i) from the provisions of Section 6(1), (2) and (3) of the Act (which relates to the disposal of radioactive waste) absolutely; and
- (ii) from the provisions of Section 7(1) of the Act (which relates to the accumulation of radioactive waste), subject to the condition that the waste is disposed of as soon as practicable.

*Exclusion of further descriptions of radioactive waste from Sections 6 and 7 of the Act*

10.—(1) Radioactive waste falling within any of the following descriptions,—

- (a) waste which, immediately before it became waste, consisted of exempted class 2 valves or exempted articles incorporating class 2 valves;
- (b) parts of exempted class 2 valves;
- (c) substances or articles which are radioactive waste solely because they have been contaminated in the course of the keeping or use of exempted class 2 valves or exempted articles incorporating class 2 valves, or by contact with or proximity to other waste falling within either of the preceding sub-paragraphs or this sub-paragraph,

is hereby excluded from the provisions of Section 6(1) and (2) of the Act, subject to the conditions that—

- (i) the waste is dispersed in other refuse which is not radioactive waste;

- (ii) the refuse in which it is dispersed is disposed of by causing or permitting its removal by a refuse disposal authority or their contractors; and
- (iii) in any one week, not more than ten class 2 valves (whether whole or in parts, whether or not incorporated in other articles and whether or not absorbed in, mixed with or adhering to other substances or articles) are disposed of from the premises.

(2) Where it is waste which has been received as refuse by a refuse disposal authority or their contractors, radioactive waste falling within paragraph (1) is hereby excluded—

- (a) from the provisions of Section 6(3) of the Act, subject to the condition that it is dispersed in other refuse; and
- (b) from the provisions of Section 7(1) of the Act, subject to the conditions that—
  - (i) it is dispersed in other refuse; and
  - (ii) the refuse in which it is dispersed is disposed of as soon as practicable.

(3) Save where it is waste which has been received as refuse by a refuse disposal authority or their contractors, radioactive waste falling within paragraph (1) of this Article is hereby excluded from the provisions of Section 7(1) of the Act, subject to the conditions that—

- (a) it is dispersed in other refuse which is not radioactive waste; and
- (b) the refuse in which it is dispersed is disposed of as soon as practicable.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Health and Local Government this 21st day of December, nineteen hundred and sixty-two.

(L.S.)

*Wm. J. Morgan,*

Minister of Health and Local Government.

#### SCHEDULE

1	2
Cobalt 60	Tritium
Nickel 63	Carbon 14
Caesium 137	Chlorine 36
Thorium (any isotope of)	Krypton 85
Thallium 204	
Radium 226	
Uranium (any isotope of)	

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)*

This Order exempts persons (in some cases conditionally) from registration under Section 1 of the Radioactive Substances Act, 1960, in respect of the keeping and use, except on manufacturers' premises, of "radioactive material" within the meaning of Section 18(1) of that Act consisting of electronic valves possessing limited radioactivity and instruments and other articles incorporating such valves.