
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the regulations)

The Environmental Protection (Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and other Dangerous Substances), (England and Wales) Regulations 2000 (“the 2000 Regulations”) provide for the implementation of those provisions of Council Directive [96/59/EC](#) that require decontamination or disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls and polychlorinated terphenyls (“PCBs”) and equipment containing them.

Regulation 4(1) of the 2000 Regulations imposes a prohibition on holding PCBs and equipment containing them after 31st December 2000. This is subject to exceptions specified in those regulations. One exception relates to major replacement programmes and depends upon the Environment Agency having issued a direction under regulation 4(5) of those Regulations before 31st December 2000 and upon the direction having been confirmed by the Secretary of State (for equipment in England) or the National Assembly for Wales (for equipment in Wales).

These regulations amend the 2000 Regulations so as to enable those who applied before 1st January 2001 for a direction under regulation 4(5) of the 2000 Regulations to continue to hold equipment until 31st March 2001.