
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2022 No. 1169

The Merchant Shipping (Nuclear Ships) Regulations 2022

PART 2

Special requirements for nuclear ships

Safety assessment

7.—(1) A United Kingdom nuclear ship must not be constructed unless a safety assessment has been prepared and approved by the Secretary of State.

(2) The safety assessment referred to in paragraph (1) must—

- (a) in accordance with regulation 7 of Chapter VIII (safety assessment), evaluate the nuclear power plant and safety of the ship in order to ensure that there are no unreasonable radiation or other hazards, at sea or in port, to the crew, passengers or public, or to waterways, food or water resources;
- (b) contain the matters set out in the following provisions in the Nuclear Code—
 - (i) paragraphs 1.4.5 and 1.4.6 in Chapter 1 (principles of risk assessment);
 - (ii) paragraph 7.2.2 in Chapter 7 (content of safety assessment); and
 - (iii) paragraph 8.1.7 in Chapter 8 (specification of surveys etc.), where appropriate; and
- (c) take into account any advancements made in nuclear technology and safety standards.

(3) Subject to payment of the prescribed fee, the Secretary of State must approve the safety assessment referred to in paragraph (1), and any change to it, if satisfied that the requirements in paragraph (2) have been met.

(4) For the purposes of this regulation, “nuclear power plant” means that part of the reactor installation that produces steam for propulsion.

Commencement Information

II Reg. 7 in force at 8.12.2022, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Design and construction of nuclear ships

8. A nuclear ship must be designed and constructed in accordance with the following provisions of the Nuclear Code—

- (a) paragraphs 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.3.5, 1.3.6, 1.3.8 to 1.3.11 and 1.9.2 in Chapter 1 (general safety principles);
- (b) Chapter 2 (design criteria and conditions);
- (c) Chapter 3 (ship design, construction and equipment);
- (d) Chapter 4 (nuclear steam supply system);

- (e) Chapter 5 (machinery and electrical installations); and
- (f) paragraphs 6.2, 6.4.1 to 6.4.5, 6.4.9, 6.4.10, 6.5.1 to 6.5.9, 6.6.2, 6.7.3, 6.8.1, 6.8.4, 6.9 and 6.10 in Chapter 6 (radiation safety).

Commencement Information

I2 Reg. 8 in force at 8.12.2022, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Suitability of reactor installation for service on board a ship

9. The reactor installation must be designed having regard to the special conditions of service on board a nuclear ship in both normal and exceptional circumstances of navigation.

Commencement Information

I3 Reg. 9 in force at 8.12.2022, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Approval of reactor installation

10. For the purposes of the operation of a United Kingdom nuclear ship, the design, construction, and standards of inspection and assembly of the reactor installation must be approved by the Secretary of State, or any person authorised by the Secretary of State, taking into account the limitations on surveys of the reactor installation as a consequence of the presence of radiation.

Commencement Information

I4 Reg. 10 in force at 8.12.2022, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Radiation safety

11.—(1) A nuclear ship must comply with each of the following requirements relating to radiation safety in Chapter 6 of the Nuclear Code (radiation safety)—

- (a) paragraphs 6.3 and 6.4 (protection of persons and dosimetry and monitoring); and
- (b) paragraphs 6.5.9 to 6.5.11, 6.6.1, 6.6.3, 6.6.4, 6.7.1, 6.7.2, 6.8.2 and 6.8.3 (radioactive waste management),

that applies to that ship.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1), where there is a conflict between the requirements of the REPPIR regulations and paragraph (1), the requirements of the REPPIR regulations take precedence.

Commencement Information

I5 Reg. 11 in force at 8.12.2022, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Merchant Shipping (Nuclear Ships) Regulations 2022, PART 2.