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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2015 No. 483**

**The Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015**

**PART 1**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Application and exceptions**

**3.—**(1) These Regulations apply to any establishment which is either a lower tier establishment or an upper tier establishment.

(2) These Regulations do not apply to any of the following—

- (a) an establishment which is under the control of—
  - (i) the Secretary of State for the purposes of the Ministry of Defence;
  - (ii) a headquarters or organisation designated for the purposes of the International Headquarters and Defence Organisations Act 1964<sup>(1)</sup> or the service authorities of a visiting force within the meaning of any of the provisions of Part 1 of the Visiting Forces Act 1952<sup>(2)</sup>;
- (b) hazards created by ionising radiation originating from substances;
- (c) substances which create a hazard from ionising radiation if present on a nuclear establishment;
- (d) the exploitation, namely the exploration, extraction and processing, of minerals in mines and quarries, including by means of boreholes, except any of the following which involve dangerous substances—
  - (i) onshore underground gas storage in natural strata, aquifers, salt cavities and disused mines;
  - (ii) chemical and thermal processing operations and storage related to those operations;
  - (iii) operational tailings disposal facilities, including tailing ponds or dams;
- (e) the offshore exploration and exploitation of minerals, including hydrocarbons;
- (f) the storage of gas at underground offshore sites including dedicated storage sites and sites where exploration and exploitation of minerals, including hydrocarbons, are also carried out;
- (g) waste landfill sites, including underground waste storage, except—
  - (i) any of the following that involve dangerous substances—
    - (aa) chemical and thermal processing operations and storage related to those operations; or
    - (bb) operational tailings disposal facilities, including tailing ponds or dams;

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(1) 1964 c.5.  
(2) 1952 c.67.

- (ii) sites used for the storage of metallic mercury pursuant to Article 3(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No. 1102/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the banning of exports of metallic mercury and certain compounds and mixtures and the safe storage of metallic mercury<sup>(3)</sup>.

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<sup>(3)</sup> O.J. No. L304, 14.11.2008, p.75.