Lesley Griffiths AC/AM Gweinidog dros Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Our ref MA-L/LG/0248/19

Mick Antoniw AM Chair Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee National Assembly for Wales

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18 October 2019

Dear Mick

I wish to inform you I have laid a statutory instrument consent memorandum ("the memorandum") in relation to the Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 2019 ("the Regulations") which were laid in Parliament on 1 October 2019.

The primary purpose of the Regulations is to correct out-of-date references in domestic legislation to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 on the placing of plant protection products on the market. The amendments are being made to ensure the statute book operates as intended ahead of the UK's exit from the European Union. This is because out-of date references to legislation are not necessarily interpreted as references to the correct (updated) legislation and there is therefore a risk that the statute book would not operate as intended as a result.

The amendments contained within the Regulations cover a range of legislation in the fields of pesticides, water and the environment. I have laid the memorandum in relation to the provision amending the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, in accordance with the requirements of SO 30A. That provision extends and applies to England and Wales. The Regulations have already been made, and are of a technical nature and contain no substantive change to existing policy.

The Regulations are subject to the negative procedure in Parliament and, provided no Member of Parliament prays against them, will come into force on 31 October 2019.

I had intended a statutory instrument consent motion to be tabled for debate on 22 October but unfortunately due to an administrative error this has not happened. As a result there is no time for the Assembly to debate the Regulations before they come into force. I have asked officials to ensure that this error is not repeated in future.

Regards

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Gweinidog dros Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs