

**The Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations 1999 (EIADR99)**

1. The purpose of the EIADR99 is to require assessment of the potential environmental impacts of projects to decommission nuclear power stations and nuclear reactors, including the reactors, plants associated with power production and the removal of related wastes, and buildings and land contaminated as a result of the operation of the power station.
2. The regulations apply to all new decommissioning projects that began after they came into force on 19 November 1999, and to existing projects that are subject to a change or extension, which may have significant adverse effects on the environment.
3. The competent authority for EIADR99 in Great Britain is the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The nuclear site licensee must apply to HSE for a determination as to whether an environmental impact assessment (EIA) is required for a new decommissioning project and to existing decommissioning projects that are subject to a change or extension (which may have significant adverse effects on the environment).
4. One of the aims of EIADR99 is to make the decision making process open and transparent. To facilitate this, the regulations require that the public and other relevant stakeholders be consulted, from an early stage regarding the environmental impacts of the options being considered for a proposed decommissioning project by the licensee.
5. Under EIADR99, the Secretary of State (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister) must inform other European Economic Area (EEA) states of any project that is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that state. The decision as to whether this is likely is made by HSE, based upon the information provided in the environmental statement and consultation responses.
6. To date, HSE has granted consent for two decommissioning projects (at Hinkley Point A and Bradwell nuclear power stations). During the next four years we expect to receive applications for consent to decommission at a further six stations. In addition, there is the potential for further submissions relating to sites where decommissioning began prior to the regulations coming into force (when changes to the project occur).