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Exemption guidance

Guidance on Radioactive Material and Radioactive Waste “stored in transit”

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Radioactive Substances Act 1993 The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2011

Who is this guidance for?

This guidance is for:

- businesses that transport radioactive material or radioactive waste
- businesses that temporarily store radioactive material or radioactive waste whilst it is being moved from one vehicle to another

Does this guidance apply in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland?

Yes, it applies across the UK.

What does this guidance cover?

The storage in transit of radioactive material and radioactive waste. This guidance defines what is meant by “storage in transit”.

What premises are exempt from the need for a permit?

All premises that store radioactive material or radioactive waste “in transit” are exempt from the requirement to have a permit for that material or waste.

Which radioactive materials or radioactive wastes are exempt whilst stored in transit?

Any radioactive material or radioactive waste is exempt if stored in transit. There are no restrictions on the number of packages, the radionuclide concentration or the total activity.

What is not exempt as “stored in transit”?

Storage in transit does not include radioactive material or radioactive waste awaiting transport before it is dispatched from its original premises, or where it is received at its final destination. Such radioactive materials and radioactive waste need to be covered by an appropriate permit.

We do not consider that radioactive material or radioactive waste that has been stored at a premises for more than 2 weeks to be in transit. Storage for more than 2 weeks will require a permit.

Radioactive material or radioactive waste that has been removed from its packaging is not exempt and will require a permit.

Are there any special conditions that I need to comply with?

There are no other conditions required by the exemption legislation.

Does other legislation apply to radioactive materials or radioactive wastes that are exempt whilst stored in transit?

There are transport regulations that apply to the storage in transit of radioactive material and radioactive waste; you need to make sure that you are compliant with these regulations. For example, the transport regulations include requirements on packaging, and the security of storage facilities.