STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1998 No. 238

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The Environmental Information (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998

Made - - - -	*1st July 1998*
Coming into operation	*31st July 1998*

The Department of the Environment, being a Department designated(**1**) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(**2**) in relation to freedom of access to, and the dissemination of, information on the environment held by public authorities or bodies with public responsibilities for the environment and which are under the control of a public authority, in exercise of the powers conferred by that section and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Environmental Information (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 and shall come into operation on 31st July 1998.

(2) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(**3**) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to a Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Amendment of the Environmental Information Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993

2. In regulation 5 of the Environmental Information Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993(**4**)—

(a) for paragraph (2) there shall be substituted—

"(2) For the purposes of these Regulations, information is to be capable of being treated as confidential if, and only if, it is information the disclosure of which—

(a) would affect international relations, national defence or public security;

(b) would affect matters which are, or have been, an issue in any legal proceedings or in any enquiry (including any disciplinary enquiry), or are

(**1**) S.I.1992/1711
(**2**) 1972 c. 68
(**3**) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)
(**4**) S.R. 1993 No. 45