1962. No. 242 **[C]**

ATOMIC ENERGY AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

The Radioactive Substances (Prepared Uranium and Thorium Compounds) Exemption Order (Northern Ireland), 1962

ORDER, DATED 21ST DECEMBER, 1962, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER SECTIONS 2(6) AND (7), 6(5) AND 7(4) OF THE RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT, 1960.

The Ministry of Health and Local Government, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Sections 2(6) and (7), 6(5) and 7(4) of the Radioactive Substances Act, 1960(a), and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:—

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Radioactive Substances (Prepared Uranium and Thorium Compounds) Exemption Order (Northern Ireland), 1962, and shall come into operation on the 1st day of December, 1963.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this Order—

"the Act" means the Radioactive Substances Act, 1960;

"decay products" means, in relation to any radionuclide, the radionuclides succeeding it in the radioactive series in which it and they occur;

"prepared thorium" means a mixture of thorium prepared by a chemical process or processes the effect or one of the effects of which was the production of thorium separated from all or most of each of the decay products of thorium (other than isotopes of thorium), and decay products of thorium, being a mixture in which—

(*a*) the number of microcuries of thorium giving rise to the emission of alpha particles does not exceed 1·7 per gramme of thorium; and

(*b*) the number of microcuries of any of the decay products of thorium 232 does not exceed the number of microcuries of thorium 232 and the number of microcuries of any of the decay products of thorium 230 does not exceed the number of microcuries of thorium 230; and

(*c*) the decay products of isotopes of thorium consist of the remainder (if any) of the decay products present with those isotopes at the time the thorium was prepared and the decay products formed since that time through radioactive decay occurring in the mixture;

"prepared uranium" means a mixture of uranium prepared by a chemical process or processes the effect or one of the effects of which was the production of uranium separated from all or most of each of the decay products (other than uranium 234) of uranium, and decay products of uranium, being a mixture in which—

(*a*) the uranium comprises the isotopes 238, 235 and 234 and contains by weight not more than 0·72 per cent. of the isotope 235; and

(*b*) the number of microcuries of any of the decay products of uranium 238 does not exceed the number of microcuries of

(a) 8 & 9 Eliz. 2. c. 34.

uranium 238, and the number of microcuries of any of the decay products of uranium 235 does not exceed the number of microcuries of uranium 235; and

(*c*) the decay products (other than uranium 234) of isotopes of uranium consist of the remainder (if any) of the decay products present with those isotopes at the time the uranium was prepared and the decay products formed since that time through radioactive decay occurring in the mixture;

"refuse disposal authority" means a local authority within the meaning of the Public Health Acts (Northern Ireland), 1878 to 1962, acting in pursuance of statutory powers or duties relating to the removal and disposal of refuse;

"the Schedule 3 elements" means the elements specified in column 1 of Schedule 3 to the Act;

"weight" means weight ascertained by weighing or, where it is not reasonably practicable to ascertain weight by weighing, weight as calculated by any generally accepted method;

and any reference to an exempted compound or substance is a reference to a compound or substance falling within Article 4, being a compound or substance so kept or used as to be within the exemption from registration granted by Article 3.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (*a*) of Article 6 and paragraphs (2) and (3) of Article 7, all premises in the same occupation and lying within the same curtilage shall together be treated as the premises in respect of which the conditions in those paragraphs apply.

(3) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland), 1954(**a**), applies to the interpretation of this Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

Exemption from registration under Section 1 of the Act

3. Any person who, on the premises which are used for the purposes of any undertaking carried on by him, keeps or uses or causes or permits to be kept or used any radioactive material to which this Article applies is hereby granted exemption from registration under Section 1 of the Act (which provides for the registration of persons who keep or use radioactive material) in respect of those premises and the keeping and use thereon of that radioactive material, subject to the limitations specified in Article 5 and to the conditions specified in Article 6.

Descriptions of radioactive material to which exemption relates

4. Article 3 applies to radioactive material falling within any of the following descriptions,—

(*a*) a solid or liquid chemical compound of prepared uranium being a compound which is radioactive material solely because of the presence of one or more of the Schedule 3 elements in the prepared uranium;

(*b*) a solid or liquid chemical compound of prepared thorium being a compound which is radioactive material solely because of the presence of one or more of the Schedule 3 elements in the prepared thorium;

(*c*) a substance which is radioactive material solely because it contains a compound or compounds falling within either of the preceding paragraphs or because it has been produced directly or indirectly—

(a) 1954. c. 33.