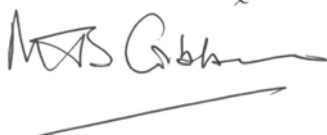
 <b>Regulatory Policy Committee</b>	<b>OPINION</b>	
<b>Impact Assessment (IA)</b>	Expansion of the Patent Opinion Service	
<b>Lead Department/Agency</b>	Department for Business, Innovation & Skills	
<b>Stage</b>	Final	
<b>Origin</b>	Domestic	
<b>IA number</b>	BIS0349	
<b>Date submitted to RPC</b>	12/02/2013	
<b>RPC Opinion date and reference</b>	20/03/2013	RPC12-BIS-1326(2)
<b>OIOO Assessment</b>	<b>GREEN</b>	
<p>The IA says that this proposal is a new regulation that is net beneficial to business (IN with a zero net cost). This is because the regulation introduced will result in an extension to an entirely optional service that businesses can use. Therefore business will only use the option if they believe it will be net beneficial to them. This appears a reasonable assessment and is in accordance with the current One-in, One-out Methodology.</p>		
<p><b>Overall quality of the analysis and evidence presented in the IA</b></p> <p>Costs and Benefits. The IA states that it was not possible to monetise overall costs and benefits to business and that the evidence sought at consultation stage indicated that there would be an increase in the use of the opinions service and likely savings on litigation, but did not provide indicative figures (Page 2). However, the IA contains sufficient qualitative analysis as well as best estimates of the costs each use of the patents opinion service and each litigated case avoided.. This approach appears to be reasonable.</p>		
<b>Signed</b> 	<b>Michael Gibbons, Chairman</b>	