Regulatory Policy Committee	OPINION
Impact Assessment (IA)	The Nitrate Pollution Prevention (Amendment) Regulations 2013
Lead Department/Agency	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Stage	Final
Origin	European
IA number	DEFRA1448
Date submitted to RPC	14/12/2012
RPC Opinion date and reference	08/01/2013 RPC12-DEFRA-1119(2)
One-in, One-out (OIOO) Assessment	GREEN

Overall comments on the robustness of the OIOO assessment.

The proposal is of European origin with direct benefits to business estimated to be £0.8m per annum. As these benefits are the result of a European measure they are out of scope of 'One-in, One-out' in accordance with the current One-in, One-out Methodology (paragraph 22 - 24).

However, the IA includes a proposal to review certain related existing UK regulatory requirements in this area. This aspect of the proposed measure is deregulatory and has a direct net benefit to business (an 'OUT') with an Equivalent Annual Net Cost to Business (EANCB) of (-)£0.03m. The categorisation and monetised estimate are consistent with the current One-in, One-out Methodology (paragraph 18) and provides a reasonable assessment of the likely impacts.

Overall quality of the analysis and evidence presented in the IA

Estimates. Whilst the IA clearly sets out the rationale for the One-in, One-out assessment some of the other estimates presented in the IA are not easy to follow, for example it is not immediately apparent how the estimates in the summary sheets relate to the figures in rest of the IA. The IA should clearly present the estimates and figures consistently throughout.

Options. The IA says that "doing nothing poses EU infraction risks and is not considered as a genuine option" (page 1). The additional information provided by the Department on the risk of EU infraction should be included within the IA to explain more clearly why doing nothing is not a viable option.

Signed Michael Gibbons, Chairman