
The Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

RPC rating: confirmed as a non-qualifying regulatory provision

Description of proposal

The amendment regulations implement EU Directive 2014/52/EU, which amends EU Directive 2011/92/EU, and amend The Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999, relating to environmental impact assessments (EIAs) in relation to forestry projects .

Impacts of proposal

The amendment regulations adjust the procedure that determines whether an EIA is required, ensuring that only projects with significant environmental impact are subject to an assessment. In order to identify such projects, there will be an increase in the amount of information required when applying for a forestry project. This is expected to lead to an increase in gross costs to business of around £165,000 each year.

Quality of submission

The Department's assessment is that transposition does not go beyond the requirements of the current EIA Directive and that, therefore, no gold plating is involved. The RPC can confirm the measure as a non-qualifying regulatory provision that will not be accounted for under the business impact target.

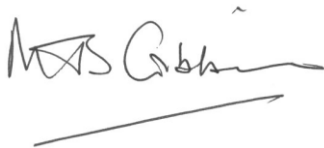
Using the analysis contained in the assessment, the RPC can confirm that the gross cost of the proposal to business is likely to be less than £1 million in any given year.

Departmental assessment

Classification	Non-qualifying regulatory provision (EU)
Equivalent annual net direct cost to business (EANDCB)	Not applicable (low cost non-qualifying regulatory provision)

RPC assessment

Classification	Non-qualifying regulatory provision (EU)
Small and micro business assessment	Not required (low-cost regulation)]



Michael Gibbons CBE, Chairman