STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1975 No. 2226

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Community Drivers' Hours Rules (Deferment of Operation) Regulations 1975

Made - - -	*23rd December* 1975
Laid before Parliament	*29th December* 1975
Coming into Operation	*1st January* 1976

The Secretary of State for the Environment, being a Minister designated(a) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(b) in relation to the regulation and supervision of working conditions of persons engaged in road transport, in exercise of the powers conferred by that section, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations shall come into operation on 1st January 1976 and may be cited as the Community Drivers' Hours Rules (Deferment of Operation) Regulations 1975.

2.—(1) In these Regulations "the Commission decision" means the decision of the Commission of the European Communities (taken on 22nd December 1975) on an application to the Commission made by the United Kingdom Government under Article 135 of the Act annexed to the Treaty relating to the accession of the United Kingdom to the European Communities(c) for authorisation to take protective measures with respect to the application of certain provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 543/69(d) to national transport operations in the United Kingdom on and after 1st January 1976.

(2) Any reference in these Regulations to any enactment or instrument is a reference to that enactment or instrument as amended by or under any other enactment or instrument.

(3) The Interpretation Act 1889(e) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3.—(1) Pursuant to the Commission decision the following provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 543/69 (which relates to the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport and the application of which in relation to national transport operations in the United Kingdom was, in accordance with Annex VII to the Act of Accession, as adjusted by Council decision of 1st January 1973(f), postponed until 1st January 1976) that is to say, the provisions of Articles 6 to 12 inclusive (which relate to lengths of journey, driving periods and rest periods) and of Articles 14 and 15 (which

(a) S.I. 1975/1707 (1975 III, p. 5814).
(b) 1972 c. 68.
(c) Cmnd 4862.
(d) O.J. No. 167 of 20.3.72 (p. 11).
(e) 1889 c. 63.
(f) O.J. No. L2, 1.1.1973 (p. 1).

relate to control procedures) shall not have effect in relation to national transport operations in the United Kingdom during the period beginning on 1st January 1976 and ending on 30th June 1976.

(2) During the period mentioned in paragraph (1) above the provisions of—

(*a*) Part VI of the Transport Act 1968(**a**), in their application to national transport operations in Great Britain, and

(*b*) Part IV of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(**b**) (so far as relating to hours of driving and rest periods for drivers of goods vehicles or public service vehicles), in their application to national transport operations in Northern Ireland,

shall continue to have effect in the same manner and to the same extent as they had effect immediately before 1st January 1976.

23rd December 1975.

Anthony Crosland,
Secretary of State for the Environment.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations.*)

These Regulations implement the decision of the Commission of the European Communities authorising the United Kingdom Government to take protective measures with respect to the application to national transport operations on and after 1st January 1976 of certain provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 543/69 relating to hours and conditions of work of drivers in the road transport industry. During the period from 1st January 1976 to 30th June 1976 the effect of Articles 6 to 12 (inclusive) and of Articles 14 and 15 of the Council Regulation is suspended in relation to national transport operations. During that period Part VI of the Transport Act 1968 (which relates to drivers' hours) and Part IV of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 (so far as relating to drivers' hours) will continue to have effect in relation to such operations in the same manner as they had effect immediately before 1st January 1976.

(**a**) 1968 c. 73. (**b**) 1970 c. 2 (N.I.).

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