EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

THE IMPORT AND EXPORT RESTRICTIONS (FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE) (No.6) REGULATIONS 2007

2007 No. 3142

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Description

2.1 These Regulations put into force emergency disease control measures to prevent the export of the foot-and-mouth disease virus to other European Member States and to Third Countries.

3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

3.1 We have broken the 21 day rule as this is an emergency measure which opens up the export trade in certain categories of animal products which was previously restricted under an EU-imposed export ban. We require urgent enforcement powers to implement it.

4. Legislative Background

4.1 These Regulations bring into force controls on the export and import of live animals and animal products as appropriate as set out in Commission Decision 2007/554/EC (as amended) concerning certain protection measures against foot-and-mouth disease in the United Kingdom.

5. Territorial Extent and Application

5.1 This instrument applies to England.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

6.1 As the instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

7. Policy background

7.1 These Regulations prevent the export of the foot-and-mouth disease virus to other European Member States and Third Countries. The Regulations reflect amendments to Commission Decision 2007/554/EC, limiting the control of exports and imports of live animals as appropriate from Great Britain.

8. Impact

8.1 A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it is an emergency disease control measure.

9. Contact

9.1 Stephen Hall (020 7904 6437) at the Department for Environment, Foods and Rural Affairs or e-mail: Stephen.a.hall@defra.gsi.gov.uk who can answer any queries regarding the instrument.