

# Licensing conditions for petroleum installations

Revised September 2018

## Petroleum licensing - Guidance note

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### Definitions

In the licence and for the purpose of these conditions (except in so far as the context otherwise requires) the following expressions shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them.

**Approved** means the acceptance in writing by the Petroleum Licensing Authority.

**Approved arrangements** means those arrangements relating to the design, construction and mode of operation of the licensed premises, which accord with the plans and specifications approved by the Petroleum Licensing Authority.

**Inspector** means a person duly appointed in writing by the Petroleum Licensing Authority, under Section 21 of the Health & Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978.

**Competent person** means a person with enough practical and theoretical knowledge, training and actual experience to carry out a particular task safely and effectively. The person should have the necessary ability in the particular operation of the type of plant and equipment with which they are concerned, an understanding of relevant statutory requirements and an appreciation of the hazards involved. That person should also be able to recognise the need for specialist advice or assistance when necessary and to assess the importance of the results of examinations and tests. A 'person' can be taken to mean more than one, or a body corporate or unincorporated. It is therefore possible to appoint appropriate organisations (e.g. insurance companies or inspection bodies) to carry out tasks designated for competent persons.

**Dangerous substance** means the same as that defined in the Dangerous Substances & Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003.

**Licence** means a licence authorising the keeping of petroleum-spirit issued by a Petroleum Licensing Authority pursuant to the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1929 and 1937.

**Licensed premises** means the premises in respect of which the licence is in force and shall include all buildings or parts of a building, tanks, pipework, pumps, dispensers, drainage, ancillary equipment, and forecourt area within that part of the premises relevant to the storage, delivery and dispensing of petroleum spirit.

**Material alterations** mean any alteration, which could affect the risks from fire and explosion at the Licensed Premises and will include:

- the change of or cessation of use of the licensed premises;
- the removal, temporary or permanent decommissioning, repair, replacement, modification or installation of any tank used for the storage of petroleum spirit and any pipeline or vapour pipeline associated with the storage and dispensing of petroleum spirit;
- the change in use of a tank used to store petroleum spirit;
- the removal without replacement of any petroleum spirit pumps or dispensers;
- the installation of any pump or dispenser in a new location;
- the removal or installation of any part of the site's leak detection, spillage or delivery control system;
- a change in the mode of operation of the dispensing equipment;
- the removal or installation of any electrical equipment within the hazardous areas of the licensed premises;
- the construction of any buildings or works within the hazardous areas or elsewhere on the licensed premises; and
- the storage or cessation of storage of any other dangerous substances on the licensed premises.

**Petroleum Licensing Authority** means Belfast City Council.



**Belfast  
City Council**

**Petroleum spirit** means the same as that defined in section 23 of the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1929 as amended.

**Mode of operation** means:

- 'attended service' where a trained attendant operates the dispensing equipment;
- 'attended self-service' where the customers operate the dispensing equipment under the supervision of a trained attendant; and
- 'unattended self-service' or 'unmanned site' where the customers operate the dispensing equipment without the supervision of a trained attendant.

**Suitable container** means:

- a metal container satisfying the constructional and labelling requirements of The Petroleum Spirit (Motor Vehicles, etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1930; or
- a plastic container satisfying the constructional and labelling requirements of The Petroleum Spirit (Plastic Containers) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983; or
- a demountable fuel tank of a motor boat or a similar vessel; or
- a United Nations approved container for the carriage of petrol.

**Supply** means sell or provide.

## General conditions

The licence and any licence conditions issued, or copies of these documents, shall be kept on the licensed premises.

Where the licensee wishes to have the licence transferred to some other person or body, he shall notify the Petroleum Licensing Authority of the name and address of the proposed transferee at least 28 days before the occupation or ownership of the licensed premises is transferred to that other person or body.

The Licensee shall not undertake, or permit to be undertaken, any material alterations to the approved arrangements, unless the written consent of the Petroleum Licensing Authority has been obtained in advance.

The Licensee shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable, notify the Petroleum Licensing Authority and confirm in writing the details of any:

- fire or explosion at the licensed premises;

- significant spillage of petroleum spirit or other dangerous substance at the licensed premises;
- actual or suspected leak of petroleum spirit or other dangerous substance from the storage tanks, dispensers and the pipework installation at the licensed premises; and
- other significant incident, which could affect the safe operation of the licensed premises.

## Dispensing & supply of petroleum spirit

No operating attendant shall be under the age of 16 years and, when open for business, the licensed premises shall be supervised by a competent person who shall not be under the age of 18 years.

The licensee shall not supply petroleum spirit or any other dangerous substance to any person under the age of 16 years.

Except where a petroleum spirit dispenser is being tested for accuracy or during the course of repairs to the installation or any part thereof, petroleum spirit shall only be dispensed into the fuel tank of an internal combustion engine, or into a suitable container. Any container used for this purpose shall immediately be securely closed and removed from the licensed premises or kept in a safe place.

## Record keeping

The Licensee shall ensure that adequate records are kept of the petroleum spirit monitoring and reconciliation system or the operation of any other suitable leak detection system or leak prevention system such that any leak of petroleum spirit from the storage tanks or associated pipework is detected before a hazardous situation can arise. Such records and documents should be retained for a minimum of 12 months and if requested be made available to the Petroleum Licensing Authority as soon as is reasonably practicable.

The licensee shall ensure that adequate records are kept of the maintenance regime and repairs carried out to the:

- petrol installation; including the storage tanks, pipework, pumps and dispensers;
- the spillage containment system; including drainage gullies and oil separators; and
- any other plant or equipment located in areas classified as 'hazardous' within the meaning of regulation 7 of the Dangerous Substances & Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003.

## Additional information

As the licensee you are reminded that compliance with Parts 1 to 4 of these Licensing Conditions for Petroleum Installations does not, in any way, absolve you from your statutory duties under the:

- Electricity at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991;
- Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978;
- Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000; and
- Dangerous Substances & Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 (DSEAR)

to control the risks of fires or explosives arising from the unloading (from road tankers), storage and dispensing of petroleum spirit or any other dangerous substance.

Practical advice on how to comply with the requirements of the above Regulations and in particular DSEAR can found in the following documents:

- 'Petrol Filling Stations – Guidance on Managing the Risks of Fire & Explosions' <http://www.hse.gov.uk/LAU/LACS/65-58.htm>
- L138 'Dangerous Substances & Explosive Atmospheres - Approved Code of Practice & Guidance' 1. ISBN 0 7176 2203 7
- L133 'Unloading Petrol from Road Tankers – Approved Code of Practice & Guidance' 1. ISBN 0 7176 2197 9
- HSE NI 01 02-A 'Memorandum of Guidance on the Electricity at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991'<sup>1</sup>
- Design, Construction, Modification, Maintenance & Decommissioning of Filling Stations (2nd edition). ISBN 0-85293-419X. Available from the Energy Institute, 61 New Cavendish Street, London, W1G7AR. 020 7467 7157

- L21 'Management of Health and Safety at Work' – Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 Approved Code of Practice and Guidance (2 nd Edition) 1. ISBN 0 7176 2488 9.

<sup>1</sup> Health & Safety Executive publications are available from HSE Books, PO Box 1999, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2WA. Tel: 01787 881165.

Place and Economy

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