

Transport of Nuclear Weapons Bill

CONTENTS

- 1 Transport of nuclear weapons: prohibition
- 2 Transport of nuclear weapons: permitted
- 3 Extent, commencement and citation

A
B I L L

TO

Make provision about controls on the transportation of nuclear weapons.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Transport of nuclear weapons: prohibition

(1) The transportation of Defence Nuclear Materials (DNM) within the United Kingdom is prohibited subject to the provisions of this Act.

(2) For the purposes of this Act—

(a) “DNM” means any nuclear material being transported for the purposes of creating, sustaining, or for any other purpose related to the maintenance or continued ownership, usage or deployment of, a weapon, whether defensive, offensive or deterrent in nature, within the responsibility of the Ministry of Defence or any contractor thereof or any part of the United Kingdom’s armed forces, or any other country invited or otherwise permitted to locate such material within any part of the United Kingdom. 5 10

(b) “transportation” means movement by any means, mode or medium beyond the perimeter of a site where DNM was located on the date this Act comes into force. 15

2 Transport of nuclear weapons: permitted

(1) Section 1 shall not apply, and this section shall apply, to the transportation of DNM solely for the purposes of decommissioning.

(2) Where the Secretary of State lays a statement before each House of Parliament that a certain specified movement of DNM is for the purposes of decommissioning that material from military usage to— 20

(a) non-military usage, or

(b) disposal,

that specified movement is permitted subject to subsections (3) to (5).

(3) Where a movement of DNM is permitted under subsection (2)— 25

-
- (a) any such movement must be accompanied by independent observers appointed by each local authority through whose area the material is to be transported,
 - (b) all reasonable steps must be taken to avoid routes that pass within 0.2 kilometres of a school or hospital, and 5
 - (c) any such movements must take place in daylight hours only.
- (4) Notice of the transportation of DNM for decommissioning purposes must be reported by the Secretary of State in a memorandum to the Defence Select Committee of the House of Commons, or a relevant successor body, at least three weeks prior to their occurrence. 10
- (5) Any incident occurring in the transportation of DNM for commissioning purposes that creates a health and safety or public health risk must be reported by the Secretary of State in a memorandum to the Defence Select Committee, or a relevant successor body, within 14 days of the day on which the incident was first reported. 15

3 Extent, commencement and citation

- (1) This Act extends to the United Kingdom.
- (2) This Act comes into force 6 months after the day on which it receives Royal Assent.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Transport of Nuclear Weapons Act 2016. 20

Transport of Nuclear Weapons Bill

A

B I L L

To make provision about controls on the transportation of nuclear weapons.

*Ordered to be brought in by Owen Thompson,
Brendan O'Hara, Douglas Chapman,
Kirsten Oswald, Carol Monaghan,
Martin John Docherty, Mike Weir,
Steven Paterson, Drew Hendry,
Alex Salmond, Pete Wishart
and Margaret Ferrier.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 20 January 2016.*

© Parliamentary copyright House of Commons 2016

*This publication may be reproduced under the terms of the Open Parliament Licence, which is published at
www.parliament.uk/site-information/copyright*

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON – THE STATIONERY OFFICE LIMITED
Printed in the United Kingdom by The Stationery Office Limited
£x.xx