V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

United Kingdom Government notice concerning implementation in Northern Ireland of Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conditions for granting and using authorisations for the prospection, exploration and production of hydrocarbons — Notice of competent authority and arrangements for authorisations in Northern Ireland

(2010/C 169/03)

1. The competent authority under Article 10 of Directive 94/22/EC for Northern Ireland is the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, Netherleigh, Massey Avenue, Belfast BT4 2JP.

2. The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment has made regulations which implement Council Directive 94/22/EC in Northern Ireland. These regulations are the Hydrocarbons Licensing Directive Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 (S.R. 2010 No 170). The regulations came into operation on 28 May 2010 and can be accessed on the Department's website: http://www.detini.gov.uk

3. Authorisations for the prospection, exploration and production of hydrocarbons in Northern Ireland will normally be granted in accordance with the open door procedure under Article 3(3) of Directive 94/22/EC. This procedure is provided for in Regulation 3 of the Hydrocarbons Licensing Directive Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 which requires a notice to be published in the Official Journal. A notice inviting applications will be published on 28 June 2010.

4. All enquiries regarding this notice should be directed to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (Minerals and Petroleum Branch), Colby House, Stranmillis Court, Belfast BT9 5BF, UNITED KINGDOM. tel. +44 2890388462 or fax +44 2890388461 between 9.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday or e-mail: minerals@detini.gov.uk