

Chemical regulations – No deal Brexit

This information is meant for guidance only. You should consider whether you need separate professional advice before making specific preparations.

After the UK leaves the EU there will be changes to all chemical regulations, including EU REACH (the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals Regulation). The EU REACH regulations will be brought into UK law to create 'UK REACH' (currently being tested).

While energy companies might not be direct importers of chemicals from the EU, as this is likely to be done via their supply chain, they will want to ensure that they understand the new process of importing chemicals and can support their supply chain where and if needed.

Things to consider	
Ensure that your chemicals suppliers have taken all the steps to be able to import chemicals from the EU into the UK.	
Maintain your access to EU/EEA market	Transfer your registrations to an EU/EEA-based organisation or Support your EU/EEA-based importers to become registrants (guidance from the European Chemicals Agency (EHCA))
Maintain access to UK markets	If you are a business based in the UK with an EU REACH registration, your registration will be legally recognised in UK REACH, but you will still need to take action to validate your grandfathered registration. Open an account on UK REACH IT and provide initial information on your registration within 120 days of the UK leaving the EU.
UK-based downstream user or distributor of an EU REACH registered substance	If you currently purchase a chemical substance directly from an EU/EEA supplier: Make sure any substances you purchase are covered by a valid UK REACH registration by someone within your supply chain; As an 'importer', open an account on UK REACH IT and provide initial information on your registration within 180 days of the UK leaving the EU.
UK downstream users of a REACH authorisation held by an EU/EEA-based company	You will continue to be able to use that substance in accordance with that authorisation after the UK leaves the EU, providing, within 60 days of the UK leaving the EU, that you: Confirm to the UK Agency (the HSE) that you are an existing authorised downstream user under EU law in relation to the substance.

UK downstream users of a REACH authorisation held by an EU/EEA-based company	<p>You will continue to be able to use that substance in accordance with that authorisation after the UK leaves the EU, providing, within 60 days of the UK leaving the EU, that you:</p> <p>Confirm to the UK Agency (the HSE) that you are an existing authorised downstream user under EU law in relation to the substance.</p> <p>Notify the UK Agency (the HSE) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the existing EU authorisation;• any conditions set out in the existing EU authorisation;• the identity of the supplier of the substance.
<p>UK based companies exporting or importing listed chemicals would need to comply with the requirements of the UK PIC Regulation.</p>	

Relevant documents/information

[HSE website](#)

[Guidance on regulating chemicals if the UK leaves the EU without a deal](#)

[Additional no deal Brexit REACH guidance: scenario summary table](#)

[The chemicals sector and preparing for EU Exit](#)

[Brexit: Preparing for a future «UK out of REACH scenario» \(Chemicals Industry Association\)](#)

For information, contact:

Séverine Turgis

Brexit and Economic Policy Manager

E: Severine.turgis@energy-uk.org.uk

T: +44 (0)20 7747 1835