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Edward Mountain MSP
Convener of the Rural Economy and Connectivity
Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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20th March 2019

Dear Edward,

THE EXOTIC DISEASE (AMENDMENT ETC.) (EU EXIT) REGULATIONS 2018 EU EXIT LEGISLATION – PROTOCOL WITH SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

The Scottish Parliament Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee recommended on 14 November 2018 that the Exotic Disease (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 should include Scottish devolved matters, as set out in the notification to the Parliament.

The Exotic Disease (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 were laid in the UK Parliament on 21 December 2018. I can now confirm that this SI varies in some respects from the original proposal but that the variation is not so significant as to need any further process..

The SI varies from the original proposal in two ways. Firstly, the notification to the Parliament stated that the SI would amend Commission Decision 2003/467/EC establishing the official tuberculosis, brucellosis and enzootic-bovine-leukosis-free status as regards bovine herds. Those provisions have been deleted and moved to a different SI (The Import of and Trade in Animals and Animal Products (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (“the Import and Trade Regulations”). Tuberculosis, brucellosis and enzootic-bovine-leukosis technically are not exotic diseases, so it is appropriate that these provisions are transferred to the Import and Trade Regulations.

Secondly, two minor amendments to Section 1, Annex 1 to the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement have been added to the SI. These amendments were made to omit two paragraphs of the EEA Agreement, one referencing a Commission Decision relating to rules laid down by Member States and another referencing a Regulation relating to EU reference laboratories, on the basis that following the UK’s exit from the EU they will be superfluous. These amendments are consistent with and complement those described in the notification to the Parliament.

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I am copying this letter to the Convener of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee.



MAIRI GOUGEON

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