STATEMENT ON LAND CONTAMINATION

Contaminated land\(^1\) is defined as,

“any land in such a condition, by reason of substances in, on or under the land that:

- Significant harm is being caused or there is a significant possibility of such harm being caused or
- Pollution of controlled waters is being or is likely to be caused.”

The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) will ensure best practice is followed in relation to its own landholdings in complying with the Contaminated Land Regime. As part of Defra’s Estate Management Strategy suitable procedures will be established to identify such land, minimise risk and to undertake or secure appropriate remediation.

The strategy will be implemented by the following actions:

- Review of current landholdings.
- Review of lease management.
- Review of procedures for buying and selling Defra land.
- Financial Reporting.

The main Defra business activities where this strategy will have an impact are:

- Regulatory Compliance.
- Estate Management and Valuation.
- Environmental Management Practices.
- Financial Reporting Requirements and Standards.

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\(^1\) As defined in Section 78A(ii) of Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990