



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
Ministry for Environment
Joshua Hassan House
Secretary's Lane
Gibraltar

PRESS RELEASE

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FREEDOM OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2005

The Government has appointed Thursday 18th January 2007 as the day the above Regulations come into operation.

The Regulations are based on Directive 2003/4/EC of the European Parliament on Public Access to Environmental Information. They give the public access rights to environmental information held by a public or affiliated entity in response to any requests that are made. The Regulation will cover any information that is considered to be environmental in nature in line with the indications given in the actual regulations which may be accessed free of charge at: <http://www.gibraltarlaws.gov.gi/> or through the Department of the Environment website.

The Minister for the Environment, the Hon J J Netto, has welcomed the introduction of this regulation, as it will give the public access to information on issues that directly affect them and will be better placed to make informed decisions which, as he said at the recently held Environment Seminar, was for the benefit of society as a whole, a philosophy that this Government has adopted since 1996, thereby opening-up and providing the citizens with an unprecedented amount of information in all aspects of public life.