

Ministry of Education, Heritage, Environment, Energy and Climate Change

PRESS RELEASE

No: 165/2019

Date: 7th March 2019

## Public Health (Amendment) Act (Improvement Notices)

The Government has published a Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Health Act Part IIA on the control of major accidents and hazards involving dangerous substances.

This is in order to cover a gap in our current legislation, which does not allow for improvement notices on certain installations to be issued. This is relevant in relation to the LNG Storage site that is supplying the new Generating Station at the North Mole. This amendment to the Act will now permit the Competent Authority (CA) to, if necessary, serve an Improvement Notice on the operators of the plant. If on inspection the CA finds that the measures taken by the operator for the prevention and mitigation of major accidents are deficient, but not seriously deficient enough to prohibit the operation of the establishment, they will in future be able to serve an Improvement Notice. The Notice would require the operator to remedy the deficiency or defect within a specified period of time.

This necessary amendment is in line with existing Health and Safety procedures in other areas.