



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules to the
Assembly and the Appropriate Committees on
Delegated Powers under Assembly Standing Order
43A

**The Petroleum Exploration and Licensing
(Repeal) Bill**

8 October 2026

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1. Remit of the Examiner of Statutory Rules

Assembly Standing Order 43A provides for the scrutiny of delegated powers contained in Bills before the Assembly by the Committees of the Assembly.

To assist the Committees of the Assembly in the scrutiny of Bills under Assembly Standing Order 43A, the Examiner of Statutory Rules (the Examiner) shall carry out those delegated powers scrutiny functions which are delegated to the Examiner by the relevant Committee.

Assembly Standing Order 43A states:

“43A. Scrutiny of Delegated Powers in Bills

- (1) In carrying out its functions under Standing Order 33(2), the appropriate committee may, among other things, consider and report on the following—
 - (a) whether the provisions of the Bill inappropriately delegate legislative power,
 - and
 - (b) whether the exercise of legislative power provided for in the Bill is subject to an inappropriate degree of scrutiny by the Assembly.
- (2) The appropriate committee may delegate to the Examiner of Statutory Rules the functions set out in this Standing Order.
- (3) In this Standing Order, the “appropriate committee” is the committee to which the Bill is referred under Standing Order 33.”

The [Standing Orders of the Assembly](#) are published on the Assembly website.

2. The Petroleum Exploration and Licensing (Repeal) Bill

I have received the appropriate delegation from the Committee for the Economy under Standing Order 43A(2) in relation to the Petroleum Exploration and Licensing (Repeal) Bill (the Bill).

I am satisfied that the delegation of legislative power presently provided for in the Bill is not inappropriate.

I am satisfied that the exercise of the delegated legislative powers presently provided for in the Bill, in each case, is subject to an appropriate Assembly scrutiny procedure.

Angela Kelly

Examiner of Statutory Rules

8 October 2026