



THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1996

THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1998

Approved by Tyrnwald

28th April 1998

Coming into operation

1st May 1998

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Department of Trade and Industry by section 7 of the Electricity Act 1996⁽¹⁾, and of all other enabling powers, the following Order is hereby made:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1. (1) These Regulations may be cited as the Electricity Supply (Amendment) Regulations 1998 and, subject to section 16(1) of the Electricity Act 1996, shall come into operation on the 1st May 1998.

(2) In these Regulations "the 1991 Regulations" means the Electricity Supply Regulations 1991⁽²⁾.

General conditions as to consumers

2. (1) In regulation 3(1) of the 1991 Regulations (interpretation) —
- (a) after the definition of "bonding conductor" there is inserted the following definition:
- ""British Standard Requirements" means the British Standard Requirements for Electrical Installations BS7671: 1992 as amended by Amendment No 1 1994 (AMD 8536) and published by the Institution of Electrical Engineers in 1994 in London⁽³⁾;
- (b) the definition of "Institution of Electrical Engineers Regulations" is deleted.

¹ 1996 c.14

² GC 234/91

³ ISBN 0 85296 893 6

(2) In regulation 27(2) of the 1991 Regulations (general conditions as to consumers) for "Institution of Electrical Engineers Regulations" there is substituted "British Standard Requirements."

Declaration of phases, frequency and voltages

3. (1) Regulation 30 of the 1991 Regulations (declaration of phases, frequency and voltage at supply terminals) is amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph (1), for "240 volts" substitute "230 volts".

(3) For paragraph (2) substitute —

"(2) For the purposes of this regulation, unless otherwise agreed by the consumer, the permitted variations are —

- (a) a variation not exceeding one per cent above or below the declared frequency;
- (b) in the case of a low voltage supply, a variation not exceeding 10 per cent above or 6 per cent below the declared voltage at the declared frequency;
- (c) in the case of a high voltage supply operating at a voltage below 132kV, a variation not exceeding 6 per cent above or below the declared voltage at the declared frequency; and
- (d) in the case of a high voltage supply operating at a voltage of 132kV or above, a variation not exceeding 10 per cent above or below the declared voltage at the declared frequency."

(4) After paragraph (5) insert —

"(5A) For the purposes of paragraph (5), any declaration under paragraph (1) made before 1st May 1998 in respect of a low voltage supply shall have effect as if —

- (a) the declared voltage, unless otherwise agreed between the supplier and the consumer, was 230 volts between the phase and neutral conductors at the supply terminals; and
- (b) the permitted variation of that value, unless otherwise agreed between the supplier and the consumer, was a variation not exceeding 10 per cent above or 6 per cent below that declared voltage at the declared frequency."

Interruptions of supply

4. In the proviso to regulation 32 of the 1991 Regulations (interruptions of supply) after "as may be necessary" insert "and".

Notification of specified events

5. (1) For regulation 34 of the 1991 Regulations (notification of specified events) there is substituted the following –

"34. (1) The supplier shall give to the Department notice in accordance with this regulation in respect of any event specified in paragraph (2).

(2) The events referred to in paragraph (1) are –

(a) any event attributable in whole or in part to the generating, transforming, control or carrying of energy up to and including the supply terminals, which has given rise to –

(i) the death of any person other than a person engaged by the supplier for the purposes of his business;

(ii) an injury (including any electric shock) to any person other than a person engaged by the supplier for the purposes of his business;

(iii) any fire; or

(iv) any explosion or implosion;

(b) any event attributable in whole or in part to the presence of energy on the consumer's side of the supply terminals on any non-industrial and non-commercial premises resulting in the death of any person;

(c) any event, whether or not accompanied by an event specified in sub-paragraph (a), which caused an overhead line to be at a height less than that required by regulation 13(2);

(d) the occurrence of any damage to any underground electric line of the supplier resulting from an event not specified in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b); and

(e) any event other than those listed in sub-paragraphs (a), (c) or (d) which, taking into account the circumstances of that event, was likely to cause any of the events listed in sub-paragraph (a).

(3) In respect of any event specified in paragraph (2)(a) –

- (a) the requirement to give notice in accordance with paragraph (4) (so far as applicable) applies in addition to the requirements to give notice in accordance with paragraph (5) unless the notice given satisfies the requirements of both paragraphs, and
- (b) the requirement to give notice in accordance with paragraphs (4) and (5) applies in addition to the requirement to give notice in accordance with paragraph (6).

(4) In respect of any event specified in paragraph (2)(a)(i) or (in the case of a serious injury) in paragraph (2)(a)(ii), notice of the event shall be given to the Department by telephone or other immediate means of communication immediately after the event becomes known to the supplier.

(5) In respect of any event specified in paragraph (2)(a) or (b), notice containing the relevant particulars shall, subject to paragraph (8), as soon as possible after the event becomes known to the supplier be given to the Department in writing by the quickest practicable means.

(6) In respect of any event notifiable under paragraph (2)(a), (c) or (e), notice shall be given to the Department by post within 15 days of the end of the month in which the event becomes known to the supplier, in a form which, subject to paragraph (8), contains the information comprising the relevant particulars, arranged in a form which complies with the technical requirements specified by the Department.

(7) In respect of any event specified in paragraph (2)(d), notice containing the relevant particulars, arranged in a form which complies with the technical requirements specified by the Department.

(8) The notices required by paragraphs (5) and (6) shall, where the supplier is unable to give full particulars, contain such of the relevant particulars as are available to the supplier at the time of giving the notice, and the remaining particulars shall be supplied to the Department in writing by the quickest practicable means immediately after they have become known to the supplier.

(9) In this regulation —

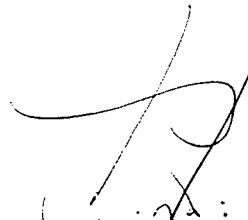
- (a) "event" means any event of the kind specified irrespective of whether it was accidental;
- (b) "relevant particulars" means:
 - (i) in respect of an event specified in paragraph (2)(a), (b) or (d), the particulars specified in Part I, II or IV respectively of Schedule 4; and
 - (ii) in respect of an event specified in paragraph (2)(c) or (e), the particulars specified in Part III of Schedule 4;

- (c) "serious injury" means any injury which results in the person injured being admitted into hospital as an in-patient; and
 - (d) "writing" includes any communication transmitted by telex or facsimile transmission.
- (2) Schedule 4 to the 1991 Regulations is amended as follows:
- (a) in Part 1 –
 - (i) for paragraph 7(c) substitute –
 - "(c) whether the earthing of the low voltage electricity supply system is by means of protective multiple earthing;"
 - (ii) omit paragraphs 4(a), 6(a) and 7(d) and (f);
 - (b) in Part III, omit paragraph 4(a); and
 - (c) in each of Parts I, II, III and IV, for paragraph 3 substitute –

"3. A unique and sequential reference number indicating, in respect of each year ending on 31st March, the number of the event."

MADE

8th February 1998



Minister for Trade and Industry

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Electricity Supply Regulations 1991 (GC 234/91) as follows:

- (a) any consumer's installation which complies with the British Standard Requirements for Electrical Installations BS7671: 1992 as amended is deemed to comply with the requirements of regulation 27 of the 1991 Regulations as to safety (regulation 2); copies of BS7671 as amended can be obtained from the British Standards Institution, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL;
- (b) a supplier of low voltage electricity to consumers is required, unless otherwise agreed, to supply current at 230 volts (reduced from 240 volts), or at a voltage not exceeding 10 per cent above (increased from 6 per cent) or 6 per cent below that voltage, in accordance with European standards (regulation 3);
- (c) it is made clear that a supply of electricity may not be discontinued for operational reasons for longer than necessary (regulation 4);
- (d) the requirements of the 1991 Regulations to notify the Department of Trade and Industry of certain accidents and other events are amended (regulation 5).