1991 No. 453

HEALTH AND SAFETY

MINES

Coal and Other Mines (Metrication) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991

Made	*9th October 1991*
Coming into operation . .	*2nd December 1991*

The Department of Economic Development, being the Department concerned(**a**), in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 17(1) to (3), 45(1) and (2) and 55(2) of, and paragraphs 1(1) and (2) of Schedule 3 to, the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(**b**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, after consultation in accordance with Article 46(1) of that Order with the Health and Safety Agency for Northern Ireland and such other bodies as appeared to it to be appropriate, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Coal and Other Mines (Metrication) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991 and shall come into operation on 2nd December 1991.

Amendments to enactments to substitute metric measurements for imperial measurements

2.—(1) The enactments specified in column 1 of the Schedule shall be amended by substituting for the measurements set out opposite thereto in column 3 (and relating to the matters specified in column 2) of that Schedule the measurements set out in the corresponding entry in column 4 and the amendments shall apply as specified in column 5.

(2) Where under this regulation a measurement is required to be substituted in any enactment for a measurement which occurs more than once in that enactment, the substitution shall be made in each place where it occurs.

Amendments to the Coal and Other Mines (Working Plans) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1970

3. The Coal and Other Mines (Working Plans) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1970(**c**) shall have effect subject to the following amendments:—

(**a**) *See* Article 2(2) of S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)
(**b**) 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)
(**c**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 126

(*a*) in Rule 6(1) after the word "level" there shall be inserted the words "from Ordnance Datum or";

(*b*) in Rule 7(1)—

(i) for the words "ten thousand feet below" there shall be substituted "or, if it is used for the purposes of Rule 6," and

(ii) at the end there shall be added the words "or Ordnance Datum, as the case may be", and

(*c*) in Rule 14(*b*), before the word "assumed" there shall be inserted the words "Ordnance Datum or".

Amendments to the Coal and Other Mines (Shafts, Outlets and Roads) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970

4. The Coal and Other Mines (Shafts, Outlets and Roads) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**a**) shall have effect subject to the following amendments:—

(*a*) in regulation 66(*a*) for the words "570° Fahr or 299° Cent" there shall be substituted "300°C" and for the words "685°C Fahr or 363° Cent" there shall be substituted "365°C";

(*b*) in regulation 66(*c*)(i) for the words "212° and 400° Fahrenheit or between 100° and 203° Centigrade" there shall be substituted "100°C and 205°C", and

(*c*) in regulation 66(*c*)(ii) for the words "212° Fahrenheit or 100° Centigrade" there shall be substituted "100°C".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Economic Development on 9th October 1991.

(L.S.) *D. Thomson*
Assistant Secretary

(**a**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 132

SCHEDULE Regulation 2

Amendments to Enactments

Column 1 *Enactments to be amended*	Column 2 *Subject matter of measurement(s)*	Column 3 *Present measurement*	Column 4 *Substituted measurement*	Column 5 *Application of amendment*
Coal and Other Mines (Working Plans) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1970(**a**)				
Rule 6(1)	(*a*) Distance of assumed datum below Ordnance Datum from which every new plan should indicate variations in level	(*a*) 10,000 feet	3.5 kilometres	(*a*) and (*b*) Plans and sections of workings made after these Regulations come into operation
	(*b*) Maximum horizontal intervals at which variations in level to be shown on certain plans	(*b*) three hundred feet	100 metres	
Rule 6(2)	Minimum variations or multiples of same from Ordnance Datum or from specified datum below Ordnance Datum to be indicated on plan	ten feet	5 metres	Plans and sections of workings made before these Regulations came into operation

(**a**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 126

Column 1 *Enactments to be amended*	Column 2 *Subject matter of measurement(s)*	Column 3 *Present measurement*	Column 4 *Substituted measurement*	Column 5 *Application of amendment*
Rule 7(1)(*a*)	Maximum intervals at which vertical variations to be shown where gradient does not exceed 1 : 3	fifty feet	15 metres	Plans and sections of workings made after these Regulations come into operation
Rule 7(1)(*b*)	Vertical variations to be shown where gradient exceeds 1 : 3	(*a*) ten feet (*b*) fifty feet (*c*) one hundred and fifty feet	(*a*) 5 metres (*b*) 15 metres (*c*) 50 metres	(*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) Plans and sections of workings made after these Regulations come into operation
Rule 7(2)	Maximum change in level of floor workings shown in any new plan required to show only direction and rate of dip of seam	fifty feet	15 metres	Plans and sections of workings made after these Regulations come into operation
Rule 10	(*a*) Distance from workings within which, where there is evidence of danger to the workings, plans shall show certain particulars	(*a*) one hundred and fifty feet	(*a*) 45 metres	(*a*) and (*b*) Plans and sections of workings made after these Regulations come into operation
	(*b*) Distance from boundary of mine within which, where there is evidence of	(*b*) three hundred and seventy-five feet	(*b*) 115 metres	

	danger to the workings of that mine, plans shall show certain particulars			
Coal and Other Mines (Managers and Officials) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**a**)				
Regulation 14(1)	Scale of plans	six inches to a mile	1 : 10560	All cases
Coal and Other Mines (Fire and Rescue) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**b**)				
Regulation 15(*a*)	Capacity of cylinders for reviving apparatus provided at every mine	twenty cubic feet	600 litres	All cases
Regulation 25(2)	(*a*) Minimum height of passage through which rescue team permitted to go, unless it is necessary to do so in an attempt to save life	(*a*) two feet	(*a*) 600 millimetres	(*a*) and (*b*) All cases

(**a**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 128
(**b**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 129

Column 1 *Enactments to be amended*	Column 2 *Subject matter of measurement(s)*	Column 3 *Present measurement*	Column 4 *Substituted measurement*	Column 5 *Application of amendment*
	(*b*) Minimum width of passage through which rescue team permitted to go, unless it is necessary to do so in an attempt to save life	(*b*) three feet	(*b*) 1 metre	
Coal and Other Mines (First Aid) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**a**)				
Regulation 5(1)(*a*)(ii)	Minimum floor area of first aid room	one hundred and fifty square feet	14 square metres	First aid rooms provided after these Regulations come into operation
Regulation 5(3)(*g*)	Weight of packets of sterilized cotton wool provided in first aid rooms	half ounce	15 grams	All cases
Regulation 7(4)(*b*)	Weight of packets of sterilized cotton wool provided in first aid boxes	half ounce	15 grams	All cases

Coal and Other Mines (Shafts, Outlets and Roads) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**b**)				
Regulation 4	Maximum vertical distance between the top of the shaft or outlet and the lowest entrance to the shaft or outlet, before certain apparatus need be provided	one hundred and fifty feet	45 metres	Shafts sunk or outlets made after these Regulations come into operation
Regulation 6	Minimum diameter of drum shaft	ten inches	254 millimetres	All cases
Regulation 9(1)	Speed which winding apparatus capable of exceeding	twelve feet per second	4 metres per second	All cases
Regulation 9(1)(*a*)	Maximum speed of landing for descending cage, etc.	five feet per second	1.5 metres per second	Automatic contrivances provided after these Regulations come into operation
Regulation 12	(*a*) Maximum distance between top of and lowest entrance to a shaft or staple pit before guides need be provided	(*a*) one hundred and fifty feet	(*a*) 45 metres	(*a*) Shafts or staple pits sunk after these Regulations come into operation

(**a**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 131
(**b**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 132

Column 1 *Enactments to be amended*	Column 2 *Subject matter of measurement(s)*	Column 3 *Present measurement*	Column 4 *Substituted measurement*	Column 5 *Application of amendment*
	(*b*) Maximum depth of shaft or staple pit in the course of being sunk before guides need be provided	(*b*) three hundred feet	(*b*) 90 metres	(*b*) Shafts or staple pits commenced after these Regulations come into operation
Regulation 17(3)	Intervals at which a length of rope used for carrying persons or loads through a shaft shall be cleaned and examined	three hundred feet	90 metres	All cases
Regulation 25(2)	Maximum average weight of output of mineral per working day for certain purposes	one hundred tons	100 tonnes	All cases
Regulation 38(*a*)	Maximum distance between highest and lowest entrances to a staple pit before effective means of transmitting certain signals required	fifty feet	15 metres	Staple pits sunk after these Regulations come into operation
Regulation 55	(*a*) Minimum width of clear space between vehicles and side of transport road if persons are to pass on foot along that road	(*a*) two feet	(*a*) 600 millimetres	(*a*) and (*b*) All cases

	(*b*) Maximum speed of vehicles in transport road if persons are to pass on foot along that road	(*b*) ten miles per hour	(*b*) 4.5 metres per second	
Regulation 56	(*a*) Minimum width of clear space between vehicles standing on any rails and the side of the road nearest to those rails at any place where vehicles coupled or uncoupled	(*a*) two feet	(*a*) 600 millimetres	(*a*) and (*b*) All cases
	(*b*) Minimum width of clear space between vehicles standing on parallel lines of rails if regulation 56 not to apply	(*b*) three feet	(*b*) 900 millimetres	
Regulation 57(1)(*a*)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in roads in which certain vehicles run—			
	(*a*) Minimum width of clear space between vehicles and the side of the road	(*a*) two feet	(*a*) 600 millimetres	(*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) All cases
	(*b*) Maximum speed of vehicles	(*b*) three miles per hour	(*b*) 1.4 metres per second	
	(*c*) Maximum intervals between refuge holes	(*c*) sixty feet	(*c*) 20 metres	

Column 1 *Enactments to be amended*	Column 2 *Subject matter of measurement(s)*	Column 3 *Present measurement*	Column 4 *Substituted measurement*	Column 5 *Application of amendment*
Regulation 57(1)(*b*)	Maximum intervals between refuge holes in roads where certain vehicles run in all cases except that mentioned in regulation 57(1)(*a*)	thirty feet	10 metres	All cases
Regulation 57(2)(*a*)(i)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in roads in which a locomotive runs—			
	(*a*) Maximum radius of the curve of such roads	(*a*) one hundred feet	(*a*) 30 metres	(*a*) Parts of roads made after these Regulations come into operation
	(*b*) Maximum intervals between refuge holes	(*b*) sixty feet	(*b*) 20 metres	(*b*) All cases
Regulation 57(2)(*a*)(ii)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in roads in which a locomotive runs—			
	(*a*) Minimum radius of the curve of such roads	(*a*) one hundred feet	(*a*) 30 metres	(*a*) and (*b*) Parts of roads made after these Regulations come into operation
	(*b*) Maximum radius of the curve of such roads	(*b*) two hundred feet	(*b*) 60 metres	
	(*c*) Maximum intervals between refuge holes	(*c*) ninety feet	(*c*) 28 metres	(*c*) All cases

Regulation 57(2)(*a*)(iii)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in roads in which a locomotive runs—			
	(*a*) Minimum radius of the curve of such roads	(*a*) two hundred feet	(*a*) 60 metres	(*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) Parts of roads made after these Regulations come into operation
	(*b*) Maximum radius of the curve of such roads	(*b*) three hundred feet	(*b*) 90 metres	
	(*c*) Maximum intervals between refuge holes	(*c*) one hundred and fifty feet	(*c*) 45 metres	
Regulation 57(2)(*b*)(i)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in roads in which a locomotive runs, the maximum intervals between refuge holes where the gradient does not exceed 1 : 80	three hundred feet	90 metres	Parts of roads made after these Regulations come into operation
Regulation 57(2)(*b*)(ii)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in roads in which a locomotive runs, the maximum intervals between refuge holes where the gradient exceeds 1 : 80 but does not exceed 1 : 50	one hundred and eighty feet	55 metres	All cases
Regulation 57(2)(*b*)(iii)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in which a locomotive runs, the	one hundred and twenty feet	37 metres	All cases

Column 1 *Enactments to be amended*	Column 2 *Subject matter of measurement(s)*	Column 3 *Present measurement*	Column 4 *Substituted measurement*	Column 5 *Application of amendment*
	maximum intervals between refuge holes where the gradient exceeds 1 : 50 but does not exceed 1 : 30			
Regulation 57(2)(*b*)(iv)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in roads in which a locomotive runs, the maximum intervals between refuge holes where the gradient exceeds 1 : 30	sixty feet	20 metres	All cases
Regulation 57(2)(*d*)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes in roads in which a locomotive runs, the maximum intervals between refuge holes in the case of any part of a road not mentioned in regulation 57(2)(*a*), (*b*) or (*c*)	three hundred feet	90 metres	Parts of roads made after Regulations come into operation
Regulation 57(4)(*a*)	Width of refuge holes	three feet	1 metre	Refuge holes made after these Regulations come into operation

Regulation 57(4)(*b*)	Minimum depth of refuge holes	four feet	1.2 metres	All cases
Regulation 57(4)(*c*)	Minimum height of refuge holes	six feet	1.8 metres	All cases
Regulation 57(5)	Minimum width of clear space between vehicles in a road and one side of that road on which side of the road refuge holes shall be situated	two feet	600 millimetres	All cases
Regulation 57(7)(*b*)	Minimum distance around aperture of refuge hole required to be whitewashed	one foot	300 millimetres	All cases
Regulation 59	Speed above which persons prohibited from riding on a set, etc., of vehicles for certain purposes	three miles per hour	1.4 metres per second	All cases
Regulation 65(1)	(*a*) Minimum length of rope to be cut when that rope re-capped if used in certain haulage apparatus	(*a*) six feet	(*a*) 2 metres	(*a*) All cases
	(*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) Maximum lengths of rope to be cut if the re-capping done within certain periods	(*b*) three feet (*c*) four feet (*d*) five feet	(*b*) 1 metre (*c*) 1.2 metres (*d*) 1.5 metres	(*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) All cases

Column 1 *Enactments to be amended*	Column 2 *Subject matter of measurement(s)*	Column 3 *Present measurement*	Column 4 *Substituted measurement*	Column 5 *Application of amendment*
Regulation 76(*a*)	Height above point to which kibble is being lowered at which person lowering kibble shall stop kibble until certain signal received	eighteen feet	6 metres	All cases
Regulation 76(*b*)	Height above point from which kibble is being raised at which person raising kibble shall stop kibble until certain signal received	four feet	1.2 metres	All cases
Regulation 78(1)	Maximum distance of road along which vehicles may be moved before telephonic communication need be provided	three thousand feet	900 metres	Shafts sunk and unwalkable outlets made after these Regulations come into operation
Coal and Other Mines (General Duties and Conduct) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**a**)				
Regulation 8(1)	Power of machinery which only certain persons may operate	ten horse-power	7.5 kilowatts	All cases

Coal and Other Mines (Surveyors and Plans) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**b**)				
Regulation 7(1)(*a*)	Extent of workings to be covered by plans	three hundred feet	100 metres	Plans made after these Regulations come into operation
Regulation 9(1)	(*a*) Distance from boundary of working outside mine to be shown on plans	(*a*) three hundred and seventy-five feet	(*a*) 115 metres	(*a*). Plans made after these Regulations come into operation
	(*b*) Depth of workings to be shown on plans	(*b*) one hundred and twenty feet	(*b*) 37 metres	(*b*) All cases
Regulation 11	Scale of Plans	six inches to one mile	1 : 10560	All cases
Coal and Other Mines (Safety Lamps and Lighting) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**c**)				
Regulation 12	Distance to be kept between safety lamp and equipment in use	two feet	600 millimetres	All cases
Regulation 20(3)	Distances from working face within which certain lighting not required	(*a*) one hundred and fifty feet (*b*) nine hundred feet (*c*) thirty feet	(*a*) 45 metres (*b*) 275 metres (*c*) 10 metres	(*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) All cases
Regulation 26(*c*)	Distance from working face within which there is no need to whiten walls, etc.	three hundred feet	90 metres	All cases

(**a**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 133 to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations
(**b**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 135
(**c**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 138 to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations

Column 1 *Enactments to be amended*	Column 2 *Subject matter of measurement(s)*	Column 3 *Present measurement*	Column 4 *Substituted measurement*	Column 5 *Application of amendment*
Coal and Other Mines (Mechanics and Electricians) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**a**)				
Regulation 10(4)(*b*)	Distance from working face beyond which a lamp-holder must be made dead by certain persons before removal or insertion of a lamp	nine hundred feet	275 metres	All cases
Regulation 17(1)(*a*)	In relation to exceptions from regulations 14 and 15 applying to certain persons:			
	(*a*) Power which prime mover capable of exceeding	(*a*) ten horse-power	(*a*) 7.5 kilowatts	(*a*) and (*b*)
	(*b*) Distance from working face at or within which such prime movers or, as the case may be, electric motors were used	(*b*) thirty feet	(*b*) 10 metres	All cases

(**a**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 139 to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend—

(1) (i) the Coal and Other Mines (Working Plans) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1970,

(ii) the Coal and Other Mines (Managers and Officials) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970,

(iii) the Coal and Other Mines (Fire and Rescue) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970,

(iv) the Coal and Other Mines (First-Aid) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970,

(v) the Coal and Other Mines (Shafts, Outlets and Roads) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970,

(vi) the Coal and Other Mines (General Duties and Conduct) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970,

(vii) the Coal and Other Mines (Surveyors and Plans) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970,

(viii) the Coal and Other Mines (Safety Lamps and Lighting) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970,

(ix) the Coal and Other Mines (Mechanics and Electricians) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970,

by substituting for measurements expressed in imperial units, measurements expressed in metric units so as to preserve the effect of the various provisions except to the extent necessary to obtain amounts expressed in convenient and suitable terms, (regulation 2 and the Schedule);

(2) the Coal and Other Mines (Working Plans) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1970 to allow the use of Ordnance Datum as well as an assumed level below Ordnance Datum as had hitherto been the case (regulation 3); and

(3) the Coal and Other Mines (Shafts, Outlets and Roads) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970 so as to change the prescribed specifications relating to the capping of a rope used in winding or haulage apparatus (regulation 4).