1956 No. 1772

The Coal and Other Mines (Steam Boilers) Order, 1956

Made - - - -	*7th November*, 1956
Laid before Parliament	*26th November*, 1956
Coming into Operation	1st *January*, 1957

Whereas by subsection (1) of section one hundred and ninety of the Mines and Quarries Act, 1954(a) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), the Minister of Fuel and Power (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") is empowered to re-enact (to the extent to which they could by virtue of the Act be enacted in regulations made under section one hundred and forty-one thereof)—

(*a*) provisions of any regulation having effect by virtue of section eighty-six of the Coal Mines Act, 1911(b);

(*b*) provisions of any enactment repealed by section one hundred and eighty-nine of the Act in so far as that enactment is not re-enacted in the Act;

subject to such modifications (if any) as appear to him to be consequential on the passing of the Act or requisite for the purpose either of bringing those provisions into conformity with the Act or of expressly limiting their operation to mines of the class to which their operation is limited immediately before the commencement of the Act:

And Whereas by subsection (2) of that section it is provided amongst other things that an order under subsection (1) shall set out in a schedule to the order the provisions thereby re-enacted and may direct that those provisions shall have effect as if they were regulations made under section one hundred and forty-one of the Act:

Now, therefore, the Minister in pursuance of the powers conferred upon him by section one hundred and ninety of the Act hereby orders as follows:—

1.—(1) The provisions set out in the first schedule hereto, being provisions of regulations and enactments specified in the second schedule hereto subject to such modifications as aforesaid, are hereby re-enacted and shall have effect as if they were regulations made under section one hundred and forty-one of the Act coming into operation at the commencement of the Act.

(2) The provisions set out in the first schedule hereto may be cited as the Coal and Other Mines (Steam Boilers) Regulations, 1956.

2. This order shall come into operation at the commencement of the Act and may be cited as the Coal and Other Mines (Steam Boilers) Order, 1956.

Dated this seventh day of November, nineteen hundred and fifty-six.

Aubrey Jones,
Minister of Fuel and Power.

FIRST SCHEDULE

THE COAL AND OTHER MINES (STEAM BOILERS) REGULATIONS, 1956, HAVING EFFECT AS IF MADE UNDER SECTION ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-ONE OF THE MINES AND QUARRIES ACT, 1954.

Application

1. These regulations shall apply to every mine of coal, stratified ironstone, shale or fireclay, and in these regulations "mine" means such a mine.

(a) 2 & 3 Eliz. 2. c. 70. (b) 1 & 2 Geo. 5. c. 50.

Safety valves, steam gauges and water gauges

2. Every steam boiler, whether separate or one of a range, at a mine shall be provided with—

(*a*) a suitable safety valve ; and

(*b*) a suitable steam gauge and a suitable water gauge to show respectively the pressure of steam and the height of water in that boiler.

3. Every water gauge attached to any steam boiler at a mine shall be provided with a suitable covering or guard unless it is so constructed as to be as safe to persons working or passing near-by as it would be if so protected.

4. No person shall alter the setting of any safety valve attached to any steam boiler at a mine except with the authority of the official under whose immediate charge the boiler minder works, and no weight shall be used on a safety valve which works with weights other than a weight constructed for that purpose.

Determination and indication of maximum steam pressure

5. The manager of every mine shall, in relation to each steam boiler for the time being in use, or intended to be used, at the mine, determine the maximum pressure to which steam may be generated at pressure in that boiler and have that pressure marked upon the steam gauge in a distinctive colour.

Appointment and duties of boiler minders

6. The manager of every mine shall make and secure the efficient carrying out of arrangements whereby every steam boiler for the time being in use at the mine is in the charge of a competent person appointed by him for that purpose (in these regulations referred to as a " boiler minder ").

7. Every boiler minder shall, with respect to every steam boiler for the time being in use at the mine and in his charge,—

(*a*) from time to time during the course of each day inspect externally that boiler and all its fittings and attachments, and forthwith report to the official under whose immediate charge he works any patent defect of that boiler or of those fittings or attachments ;

(*b*) maintain the level of water in that boiler as nearly as practicable at the proper working level ;

(*c*) if the level of water in that boiler falls below, and he is unable to raise that level to, the proper working level, forthwith—

(i) lower the dampers ;

(ii) damp down the fire ;

(iii) (if it is necessary further to reduce the consumption of water) draw the fire ; and

forthwith thereafter report to the official under whose immediate charge he works the facts and the nature of the action taken by him in pursuance of sub-paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) of this paragraph ; and

(*d*) ensure that the pressure to which steam is generated in that boiler does not exceed the maximum pressure determined by the manager in pursuance of regulation five.

Cleaning of boilers

8. The manager of every mine shall make and secure the efficient carrying out of arrangements whereby every steam boiler for the time being in use at the mine is cleaned out at intervals not exceeding three months by a competent person appointed for that purpose by the manager.

9.—(1) Without prejudice to the generality of regulations six and seven of the Coal and Other Mines (Mechanics and Electricians) Regulations, 1956(**a**), it shall be the duty of the manager of every mine to ensure that a scheme for the systematic examination of plant at that mine made in pursuance of the said regulation seven provides that every steam boiler at a mine shall—

(*a*) be examined internally, as far as the construction thereof will permit, by a competent person appointed for that purpose by the manager, forthwith

(**a**) S.I. 1956/1759 (p. 1223 above).

after every cleaning of that boiler carried out in pursuance of the last preceding regulation; and

(*b*) be examined thoroughly at intervals not exceeding fourteen months by a competent person so appointed.

(2) In every case in which a boiler inspection company or association has been appointed by the manager of a mine to make an examination of a steam boiler in pursuance of provisions of a scheme for the systematic examination of plant at that mine, being provisions included in that scheme in pursuance of sub-paragraph (*b*) of the last preceding paragraph, there shall, within fourteen days of the completion of the examination, be made in, or attached to, a book provided for the purpose by the owner of the mine a report signed by the person who made the examination and countersigned by the chief engineer or other officer of similar status of the company or association.

General

10.—(1) In these regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say—

" the Act " means the Mines and Quarries Act, 1954 ;

" boiler minder " has the meaning assigned thereto in regulation six ;

" mine " has the meaning assigned thereto in regulation one.

(2) Nothing in these regulations shall apply to any steam boiler forming part of a locomotive belonging to and used by a railway company.

(3) Expressions to which meanings are assigned by the Act or by these regulations shall (unless the contrary intention appears) have the same meanings in any document issued under the provisions of these regulations.

(4) The Interpretation Act, 1889(a), shall apply to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

SECOND SCHEDULE

REGULATIONS AND ENACTMENTS CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE RE-ENACTED WITH MODIFICATIONS IN THE COAL AND OTHER MINES (STEAM BOILERS) REGULATIONS, 1956.

Coal Mines Act, 1911, section 56	
General Regulations, dated July 10, 1913(b),	Regulations 74 to 76.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This order is made under the Mines and Quarries Act, 1954, s. 190, which empowers the Minister of Fuel and Power to re-enact (to the extent to which they could be enacted in regulations made under the Act and subject to modifications of the kind specified in that section) the provisions of regulations and enactments which will cease to have effect at the commencement of the Act.

The provisions set out as regulations in the first schedule to this order apply to mines of coal, stratified ironstone, shale and fireclay, and relate to steam boilers at such mines. The regulations require the provision of suitable safety valves, steam gauges and water gauges for such boilers, and it is the duty of the manager to determine the maximum pressure to which steam may be generated in each boiler. Boiler minders must be appointed, whose duties are specified, and provision is made to ensure the systematic examination of the boilers at certain intervals. These regulations comprise, and will at the commencement of the Act replace, provisions of the regulations and enactments specified in the second schedule to the order.

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63. (b) S.R. & O. 1913/748 (Rev. IV, p. 318 : 1913, p. 680).