COAL INDUSTRY

EMPLOYMENT BELOW GROUND

1955 No. 549

The Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) Order, 1955

Made - - - -	*7th April*, 1955
Coming into Operation	*1st May*, 1955

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 7th day of April, 1955

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908(**a**), makes provision regarding the times during which certain persons employed in mines below ground may be below ground in a mine for the purpose of their work:

And Whereas by section four of that Act it is provided that Her Majesty may, in the event of, inter alia, great emergency, or in the event of any grave economic disturbance due to the demand for coal, or for the product of any other mines to which the Act applies, exceeding the supply available at the time, by Order in Council suspend the operation of the Act to such extent and for such period as may be named in the Order, either as respects all mines or any class of mines:

And Whereas circumstances existed such as contemplated by the said section four and Her Majesty in Council in exercise of the powers conferred on Her as aforesaid was pleased to make the Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) (No. 2) Order, 1954(**b**), relating to the period ending on the thirtieth day of April, nineteen hundred and fifty-five:

And Whereas circumstances still exist such as contemplated by the said section four and accordingly the powers conferred by the said section four are still exercisable:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred on Her as aforesaid, and of all other powers enabling Her in that behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. In this Order the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to say:—

(*a*) "the Act of 1908" means the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, as amended by the Coal Mines Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1917(**c**), the Coal Mines Act, 1919(**d**), the Coal Mines Act, 1931(**e**), and the Coal Mines Act, 1932(**f**);

(*b*) "coal" means bituminous coal, cannel coal and anthracite.

2. For the period beginning on the date of the coming into operation of this Order and ending on the thirtieth day of April, nineteen hundred and

(**a**) 8 Edw. 7. c. 57. (**b**) S.I. 1954/833 (1954 I, p. 480). (**c**) 7 & 8 Geo. 5. c. 8.
(**d**) 9 & 10 Geo. 5. c. 48. (**e**) 21 & 22 Geo. 5. c. 27. (**f**) 22 & 23 Geo. 5. c. 29.

fifty-six, the operation of the Act of 1908 in relation to mines of coal is suspended so far as concerns the application of sections one and three thereof to workmen being below ground for the purpose of their work and of going to and from their work on any Friday after two o'clock in the afternoon and on any Saturday before two o'clock in the afternoon.

3. This Order shall come into operation on the first day of May, nineteen hundred and fifty-five, and may be cited as the Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) Order, 1955.

W. G. Agnew.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

The Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, as amended by subsequent enactments, limits the time during which the main categories of workmen in mines may be below ground for the purpose of their work, and of going to and from their work, to 7½ hours during any period of 24 hours. The corresponding time for certain other categories is 8½ hours.

This Order suspends the operation of the relevant sections of the Act, in so far as it applies to coal mines, on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings for the period from the expiry of the Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) (No. 2) Order, 1954, to 30th April, 1956.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

1955 No. 972

The Coal Mines (Training) (Amendment) General Regulations, 1955

Made - - - -	1*st July*, 1955
Laid before Parliament	8*th July*, 1955
Coming into Operation	16*th July*, 1955

The Minister of Fuel and Power, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section eighty-six of the Coal Mines Act, 1911(**a**), and of all other powers him enabling, hereby orders that the following regulations shall have effect:—

1. The Coal Mines (Training) General Regulations, 1945(**b**), shall have effect subject to the following amendments.

2.—(1) In paragraph (*a*) of regulation two (which relates to training for employment below ground) the words "about a coal mine on work above ground" shall be deleted.

(2) In paragraph (*c*) of regulation two for the words "a training officer appointed under these Regulations" there shall be substituted the words "a training officer for that coal mine or, where such training has not been received at that mine, a person whose appointment for that purpose has been notified to the inspector of the division and who has supervised the giving of the whole or part of that training".

(**a**) 1 & 2 Geo. 5. c. 50.
(**b**) S.R. & O. 1945/1217 (Rev. IV, p. 411: 1945 I, p. 114).