1993 No. 21

ELECTRICITY

The Electricity Supply (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993

Made . . . . . *20th January 1993*

Coming into operation . . *1st March 1993*

The Department of Economic Development, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 32 and 64 of the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992(**a**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Electricity Supply (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993 and shall come into operation on 1st March 1993.

Amendment of the Electricity Supply Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991

2. The Amendments to the Electricity Supply Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991(**b**) set out in the Schedule shall have effect.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Economic Development on 20th January 1993.

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

(**a**) S.I. 1992/231 (N.I. 1)
(**b**) S.R. 1991 No. 536

SCHEDULE Regulation 2

Amendments to the Electricity Supply Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991

AMENDMENT TO PART I

1. In regulation 3 (interpretation) for the definition of "Institution of Electrical Engineers Regulations" there shall be substituted the following definition—

" "Institution of Electrical Engineers Regulations" means the latest edition of the Regulations for Electrical Installations published by the Institution of Electrical Engineers, as amended from time to time;".

AMENDMENTS TO PART VI

2. In regulation 31 (declaration of phases, frequency and voltage at supply terminals)—

(*a*) in paragraph (2) there shall be added after sub-paragraph (*b*) the words ", or the variation which may have been authorised by the Department under paragraph (5).";

(*b*) in paragraph (4) after "agreement of the consumer" there shall be added the words "or, in the absence of such agreement, the consent of the Department which may impose such conditions, if any, as it thinks appropriate";

(*c*) at the end there shall be added the following paragraphs—

"(5) The Department may, on application by a supplier, authorise him to alter any of the declared values or any permitted variations if he gives such notice of his application as the Department may require.

(6) The supplier shall forthwith give notice in writing of any authorisation under paragraph (5) to every consumer to whose supply it may apply.".

AMENDMENT TO PART VII

3. After regulation 35 there shall be added—

"*Notification of specified events*

35A.—(1) Every supplier shall give to the Department notice in accordance with paragraph (3) in respect of any event specified in paragraph (2) whether or not that event was caused accidentally.

(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 has 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*) and (*d*) which, taking into account the circumstances of that event, was likely to cause any of the events listed in sub-paragraph (*a*).

(3) The notice shall be in writing and—

(*a*) in respect of the events specified in paragraph (2)(*a*) and (*b*)—

(i) shall be sent to the Department by the quickest practicable means after the event becomes known to the supplier; and

(ii) shall contain the particulars specified in Parts I and II respectively of Schedule 5;

(*b*) in respect of the events notifiable by reference to paragraphs (2)(*c*) and (*e*)—

(i) shall be sent to the Department by means of a return to be submitted within 15 days of the end of the month in which the event became known to the supplier; and

(ii) in respect of an event referred to in paragraph (2)(*c*) shall contain the particulars specified in Part III of Schedule 5; and

(iii) in respect of an event referred to in paragraph (2)(*e*) shall contain the particulars specified in whichever of Parts I, II and III of Schedule 5 is most appropriate to the circumstances;

(*c*) in respect of the events notifiable by reference to paragraph (2)(*d*)—

(i) shall be sent to the Department by means of a return to be submitted within one month of the period of 3 months ending on 31st March, 30th June, 30th September or 31st December as the case may be, in which the event became known to the supplier; and

(ii) shall contain the particulars specified in Part IV of Schedule 5; and

(*d*) shall, in every case, indicate by a unique and sequential reference number in respect of each year ending on 31st March, the number of that report.

(4) Notices in respect of any event specified in paragraph (2)(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) or (*e*) shall be sent to the Department notwithstanding that the supplier is unable to give the full particulars required by Parts I, II or III of Schedule 5 and any particulars omitted shall be sent by the supplier in a supplementary notice to the Department by the earliest practicable means after they become known to the supplier.

(5) Without prejudice to paragraph (3), the supplier shall give notice to the Department by telephone, telex or other immediate means of communication of any death reportable under paragraph (2)(*a*)(i) or any injury reportable under paragraph (2)(*a*)(ii), which results in the person injured being admitted into hospital as an in-patient, immediately the event becomes known to the supplier.

Maps of supplier's works underground

35B.—(1) This regulation applies in respect of supplier's works placed below ground other than works placed in land under the control of the supplier.

(2) Subject to paragraph (5), every supplier shall cause to be made and, so far as is reasonably practicable, kept up to date, a map or series of maps indicating the position and depth below surface level of all his works.

(3) The supplier shall make a copy of the whole or the relevant part of any map prepared for the purpose of paragraph (2) available for inspection by—

(*a*) the Department;

(*b*) the Department of the Environment; and

(*c*) any other person who can show reasonable cause for requiring to inspect any part of the map,

and shall, on request, provide a copy of such map or part of the map free of charge.

(4) Any map prepared for the purposes of paragraph (2) may be prepared and retained by electronic means provided that that means has the capability of reproducing such map in printed form.

(5) Nothing in this regulation shall require the inclusion on a map prepared for the purposes of paragraph (2) of information relating to the position and depth below surface level of supplier's works which were placed below ground before the coming into operation of this regulation where it would not be reasonably practicable to obtain such information.

(6) In this regulation "supplier" means a person authorised by a licence or exemption to supply electricity; and "supplier's works" shall be construed accordingly.

Exemption from requirements of regulations

35C.—(1) Where a request is made to the Department to grant an exemption from a requirement of these Regulations, that request shall be made in writing and shall state the full extent of the reasons for the exemption sought.

(2) Where the Department is satisfied that an exemption may be granted without prejudice to safety or interference with the supply to others, the Department may grant such an exemption as it thinks appropriate.".

AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULES

4. In Schedule 1 (Design, colours and proportions of the safety sign) in paragraph 2 for the words "on a yellow background" there shall be substituted the words "with the entire background of the sign in yellow".

5. After Schedule 4 (Notice of supply failure) there shall be added—

"SCHEDULE 5 Regulation 35A(3)

Notice of Specified Events

PART I

EVENTS SPECIFIED IN REGULATION 35A(2)(*a*)

Particulars relating to the person submitting the notice

1. Name, address and telephone number of the person submitting the notice and, if different, corresponding particulars of the person to whom enquiries should be addressed.

2. Date on which the notice is submitted.

3. Supplier's reference and sequential reference number.

Particulars relating to the event

4. Nature of site of event e.g. street, arable field, camp site.

5. Date and time of event.

6. Persons involved in the event—

(*a*) surname and initials;

(*b*) if at work, type of work;

(*c*) if not at work, sufficient description to identify status e.g. householder, visitor, child;

(*d*) age;

(*e*) sex; and

(*f*) nature of injury, if any.

7. Supply system details—

(*a*) voltage;

(*b*) specify apparatus at site of event, whether overhead lines, underground lines, distributing mains or service lines. If other, specify;

(*c*) extent of operation of circuit protection;

(*d*) in respect of events involving overhead lines—

(i) height of electric line at point of contact, if any;

(ii) whether or not the electric line remained live on the ground or at a reduced height;

(iii) whether or not the electric line was surrounded by insulation;

(*e*) in respect of events not involving overhead lines—

(i) whether the equipment was situated indoors;

(ii) brief description of substation physical security equipment, e.g. brick building, steel doors, nature of fencing;

(iii) whether any security fence was also the perimeter fence.

8. Brief facts of the event, including, where known, the cause.

9. Details of any action which has been or is intended to be taken to prevent recurrence of the event.

PART II

EVENTS SPECIFIED IN REGULATION 35A(2)(*b*)

Particulars relating to the person submitting the notice

1. Name, address and telephone number of the person submitting the notice and, if different, corresponding particulars of the person to whom enquiries should be addressed.

2. Date on which the notice is submitted.

3. Supplier's reference and sequential reference number.

Particulars relating to the event

4. Site of the event:

(*a*) address;

(*b*) location within the premises.

5. Date of event.

6. Person involved in the event—

(*a*) surname and initials of the deceased person;

(*b*) if at work, type of work;

(*c*) if not at work, sufficient description to identify status, e.g. householder, visitor, child;

(*d*) age;

(*e*) sex;

(*f*) nature of injury and cause of death.

7. Inquest verdict or fatal accident inquiry findings.

8. Equipment involved in the event—

(*a*) apparatus directly involved—

(i) type and make;

(ii) whether it was faulty;

(iii) if electric blanket, whether over or under blanket;

(iv) if radiator, whether it was guarded;

(*b*) whether the death was due to a fault involving—

(i) fixed wiring;

(ii) flexible lead;

(iii) appliance lead;

(iv) appliance;

(v) plug;

(vi) socket outlet;

(vii) misuse of equipment or appliance;

(viii) bare wires;

(ix) taped joints;

(x) broken neutral;

(xi) exposed and live male plug pins.

9. Supply installation details—

(*a*) voltage;

(*b*) earthing arrangements, whether—

(i) the earthing connection was loose;

(ii) the earthing connection was disconnected;

(iii) the earthing connection was in contact with a phase conductor in the plug, the socket or elsewhere, and, if so, where;

(iv) the earthing connection was to a water pipe, local earth electrode, cable sheath, aerial earthwire or earthing terminal and, if so, which;

(v) the earth fault loop impedance was measured and, if so, the measurement obtained;

(*c*) description of circuit protection;

(*d*) extent of operation of circuit protection.

10. Whether there was evidence of amateur work.

PART III

EVENTS SPECIFIED IN REGULATION 35A(2)(*c*)

Particulars relating to the person submitting the notice

1. Name, address and telephone number of the person submitting the notice and, if different, corresponding particulars of the person to whom enquiries should be addressed.

2. Date on which the notice is submitted.

3. Supplier's reference and sequential reference number.

Particulars relating to the event

4. Site of event—

(*a*) address or location;

(*b*) nature of site e.g. street, arable field, camp site.

5. Date of event.

6. Whether the person involved in the event was—

(*a*) at work, and, if so, the type of work;

(*b*) not at work, and, if so, sufficient description to identify status e.g. householder, visitor, child.

7. Supply system details—

(*a*) voltage;

(*b*) specify apparatus at site of event, whether overhead lines, distributing mains or service lines. If other, specify;

(*c*) height of the electric line at point of contact, if any;

(*d*) whether or not the electric line remained live on the ground or at a reduced height;

(*e*) whether or not the electric line was surrounded by insulation;

(*f*) description of circuit protection;

(*g*) extent of operation of circuit protection.

8. Brief facts of the event, including the cause and details of all plant involved and the person responsible for the plant.

9. Details of action which has been, or is intended to be, taken to prevent a recurrence of the event.

PART IV

EVENTS SPECIFIED IN REGULATION 35A(2)(*d*)

Particulars relating to the person submitting the notice

1. Name, address and telephone number of the person submitting the notice and, if different, corresponding particulars of the person to whom enquiries should be addressed.

2. Date on which the notice is submitted.

3. Supplier's reference and sequential reference number.

Particulars relating to the events

4. (*a*) Total number of events, if any, during the reporting period classified as specified in sub-paragraph (*b*) and involving deliberate or accidental contact, damage or interference by each of the following—

(i) a supplier, a telecommunication code system operator, a public gas supplier, a water or sewage authority, a local or highway authority, or their respective contractors;

(ii) farmers, farm workers or farm implements;

(iii) private individuals;

(iv) other persons;

(v) other causes, e.g. corrosion, ground subsidence, faulty manufacture, ageing or deterioration;

(*b*) the classes referred to in sub-paragraph (*a*) are—

(i) low voltage service lines;

(ii) low voltage distributing mains;

(iii) high voltage lines (specifying voltage).''.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Electricity Supply Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991. The main amendments are:—

(*a*) a new definition of "Institution of Electrical Engineers Regulations" to cover any update of those Regulations;

(*b*) an amendment of regulation 31 to enable the Department of Economic Development to authorise variations in phases, frequency and voltage at supply terminals on application by a supplier;

(*c*) a new regulation 35A and Schedule 5 requiring suppliers to notify the Department of Economic Development of specified events;

(*d*) a new regulation 35B requiring suppliers to make and keep up to date maps of underground works; to make these available for inspection; and to provide copies; and

(*e*) a new regulation 35C enabling the Department of Economic Development to grant exemptions from the requirements of the Regulations on request.

The Regulations for Electrical Installations published by the Institution of Electrical Engineers may be obtained from that Body at:

1 Dorchester Park
Upper Malone Road
BELFAST
BT9 6RH

1993 Nos. 22, 23

These Orders have been exempted from printing by the Statutory Rules (Northern Ireland) Order 1979. Summaries are given in the List of Statutory Rules of a Local Character under the heading ROADS.