STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1965 No. 786

WATER RESOURCES, ENGLAND AND WALES

The River Boards (Dissolution) Order 1965

Made - - - - 25*th March* 1965
Coming into Operation 1*st April* 1965

The Minister of Housing and Local Government and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 99(1) of the Water Resources Act 1963(a) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby order as follows:—

Citation, Commencement and Interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the River Boards (Dissolution) Order 1965 and shall come into operation on the 1st April 1965.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(b) shall apply to the interpretation of this Order as it does to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Dissolution of River Boards

2. All river boards are hereby dissolved.

Accounts and Audit

3.—(1) The provisions of this Article shall have effect in the case of any river authority to whom the functions of a river board are transferred by virtue of section 5 of the Water Resources Act 1963.

(2) The river authority shall, before the 1st September 1965, send to the Minister of Housing and Local Government and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food a report on the operations of the river board in respect of the year ending with the 31st March 1965 and a similar report in respect of the preceding year, if it was not sent to the said Ministers by the river board before its dissolution, and shall at the same time send a copy of any such report to the council of every county or county borough which was wholly or partly included in the area of the river board immediately before its dissolution.

(3) Any such report shall be in the form set out in a direction dated the 9th April 1962 given to river boards by the said Ministers under section 12 of the River Boards Act 1948(c) and shall contain particulars with respect to the matters specified in the Schedule to that direction.

(4) The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food shall lay before each House of Parliament a copy of any report sent to him under this Article.

(5) The accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the river board and of its officers up to the 31st March 1965 shall be subject to audit by a district auditor, and everything in relation to those accounts which, by virtue of Part X (relating

(a) 1963 c. 38.
(b) 1889 c. 63.
(c) 1948 c. 32.

to accounts and audit) of the Local Government Act 1963(a), is authorised or required to be done by or to an authority, or an officer of an authority, shall be done by or to the river authority or, as the case may be, an officer of the river authority.

(6) As soon as the accounts of the river board have been audited, the river authority shall send a copy of the accounts to the Minister of Housing and Local Government and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and shall at the same time send a copy to the council of every county or county borough mentioned in paragraph (2) of this Article; and a copy of the accounts shall be kept at the office of the river authority and any person interested shall be entitled, without payment, to inspect and take copies of, or extracts from, the copy of the accounts.

(7) Copies of any such report as is mentioned in paragraph (2) of this Article and of statements summarising the accounts of the river board shall be furnished to any person on application and on payment of such reasonable sum as the river authority may determine.

In witness whereof the official seal of the Minister of Housing and Local Government is hereunto affixed on 25th March 1965.

(L.S.) *R. H. S. Crossman,*
Minister of Housing and Local Government.

In witness whereof the official seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 25th March 1965.

(L.S.) *Frederick Peart,*
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Order.*)

The joint effect of the Water Resources Act 1963 and the River Authorities (Second Appointed Day) Order 1964 (S.I. 1964/1268) is that the existing functions of all river boards will be transferred to river authorities on the 1st April 1965. Accordingly this Order dissolves those boards on that date. It also imposes on every river authority the duty of making and distributing a final report on the operations of any river board whose functions are transferred to it, and of distributing that board's final accounts after they have been audited by a district auditor.

(a) 1933 c. 51.