1969. No. 287 [C]

ROAD VEHICLES

REGULATIONS, DATED 21ST OCTOBER 1969, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1929.

The Ministry of Home Affairs in exercise of the powers vested in it by Section 8 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1929(a) and all other powers enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and Commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Road Traffic (Mechanical Signals) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969 and shall come into operation on 1st November 1969.

Regulations amended

2. The Road Traffic (Mechanical Signals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(b) shall have effect as though:—

(1) in Regulation 3—

(*a*) in paragraph (1), after the words "by paragraph (3)" there were inserted the words "or by paragraph (3A)";

(*b*) after paragraph (3), there were added the following paragraph:—

"(3A) The size, colour and type of light signals prescribed by this paragraph shall be as follows:—

(*a*) two lamps each showing an intermittent red light and one lamp showing a steady amber light shall be used;

(*b*) the lamps showing an intermittent red light shall be arranged horizontally so that there is a distance of not less than 22 inches nor more than 26 inches between the centres of the lenses of the lamps;

(*c*) the lamp showing the amber light shall be placed below the red lenses in such a position that a vertical line passing through the centre of that lamp is horizontally equidistant from a vertical line passing through the centre of each red lens and that the vertical distance between a horizontal line passing through the centre of that lamp and a horizontal line passing through the centres of the red lenses is not less than 9 inches nor more than $10\frac{5}{8}$ inches;

(*d*) each lamp shall be separately illuminated and the effective diameter of the lens thereof shall be not less than 8 inches nor more than $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches;

(*e*) when the lamps showing an intermittent red light are operated, each such lamp shall show a red light at a rate of flashing of not less than 70 nor more than 90 flashes per minute, and in such a manner that the light of one lamp is always shown at a time when the light of the other lamp is not shown;

(a) 20 Geo. 5. c. 21 (N.I.). (b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 101.

(*f*) the height of the centres of the red lenses from the surface of the carriageway in the immediate vicinity shall be in the case of signals placed at the side of the carriageway or on a street refuge not less than 9 feet 3 inches nor more than 13 feet and in the case of signals placed elsewhere and over the carriageway not less than 19 feet nor more than 22 feet;

(*g*) the lenses shall be provided with a rectangular backing board having an overall width of not less than 52 inches and extending not less than 12 inches above the centre of each of the red lenses and not less than 12 inches below the centre of the amber lens, which board shall be coloured black on both sides, save for a white border having a width of not less than $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches nor more than $3\frac{7}{8}$ inches on the side from which the lamps show;

(*h*) the sequence of the signal lights prescribed by this paragraph shown for the purpose of controlling vehicular traffic shall be amber followed by red.";

(*c*) in paragraph (4), for the words "by the last foregoing paragraph" there were substituted the words "by either of the last two paragraphs";

(2) in Regulation 6, after paragraph (4) there were inserted the following paragraph:—

"(4A) The significance of the light signals prescribed by paragraph (3A) of Regulation 3 shall be as follows:—

(*a*) the amber signal shall convey the prohibition that vehicular traffic shall not proceed beyond the stop line on the carriageway provided in conjunction with the signals or, if that line is not for the time being visible or there is no stop line, beyond the signals, except in the case of any vehicle which when the signal first appears is so close to the said line or signals that it cannot safely be stopped before passing the line or signals; and

(*b*) the intermittent red signals shall convey the prohibition that vehicular traffic shall not proceed beyond the stop line on the carriageway provided in conjunction with the signals or, if that line is not for the time being visible or there is no stop line, beyond the signals.".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 21st day of October 1969.

(L.S.)

W. G. Robinson,
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations amend the Road Traffic (Mechanical Signals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967 by prescribing the addition of an amber warning light to operate in conjunction with the existing flashing red lights at railway level crossings equipped with automatic barriers.