

FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

Electricity Supply Regulations
1969

NOTE TO CONSUMER

These Regulations are for the information of the consumer and should be carefully read and retained. This booklet remains the property of the Falkland Islands Government.

Electricity Supply Ordinance (Cap. 23)

REGULATIONS

(under section 3 of the Ordinance)

No. 5 of 1969.

J. A. JONES,
Acting Governor.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Electricity Supply Ordinance, the Acting Governor in Council has made the following regulations —

1. These regulations may be cited as the Electricity Supply Regulations 1969.

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“apparatus” means electrical apparatus, and includes all apparatus, machines, consuming devices, and fittings in which conductors are used or of which they form a part;

“area of supply” means the area situated within forty yards from the low pressure supply system;

“conductor” means an electrical conductor arranged to be connected electrically to a system;

“consumer” means a person whose premises are for the time being connected for the purpose of a supply of electrical energy with any system;

“danger” means danger to health, human life or limb, from shock, burn or other injury, resulting from the generation, transformation, distribution or use of energy, and includes danger to property from fire resulting as aforesaid;

“earthed” means connected to the general mass of the earth in such manner as to ensure at all times an immediate and safe discharge to earth of energy;

“electric line” means a wire or conductor or other means for conveying, transmitting, or distributing energy, together with any casing, coating, covering, tube, pipe or insulator, enclosing, surrounding or supporting the same or any part thereof, or any apparatus connected therewith for the purpose of conveying, transmitting or distributing energy;

“energy” means electrical energy when generated, transmitted, supplied or used for any purpose except the transmission of a message;

“extra high pressure” means any pressure over three thousand three hundred volts; and “high pressure” means any pressure over six hundred and fifty volts, and up to three thousand three hundred volts;

“generator” means a dynamo of any type for the generation of energy;

“installation” means the whole of any electrical plant, apparatus, or works including the means of transmission, the original source of power or prime-mover and its auxiliaries, and all building appurtenant thereto;

“insulated” means covered or protected by insulating material;

“insulating” used as an epithet to characterise any substance, size, quality and construction, according to the circumstances, as to afford to persons adequate protection from danger;

“live” means electrically charged;

“low pressure” means any pressure up to six hundred and fifty volts;

“main” means an electric supply line through which energy is or is intended to be supplied;

“motor” means a motor of any type for the transformation of electrical energy into mechanical energy;

“occupier” means the person in the immediate possession of any premises, without regard to the title under which he occupies; and in the case of premises sub-divided and let to lodgers or various tenants “occupier” shall mean the person receiving the rent payable by the lodgers or tenants, whether on his own account or as agent for any person entitled thereto or interested therein;

“owner” means the person receiving the rent or profit of any lands or premises either for himself or as agent, trustee, executor or administrator for any other person, or who would receive such rent or profits if such land or premises were let;

“premises” means any building, room, tenement, shed and the land appurtenant thereto;

“pressure” means the difference of electrical potential between any two conductors or between a conductor and the earth, as read by a standard voltmeter;

“prime-mover” means a machine supplying power to a generator for the purpose of generating energy;

“private safety” means the obviation of danger to individuals or to private property;

“public lamp” means an electric lamp used for the lighting of any street, wharf or other public place;

“public safety” means the obviation of danger to the general public, to public property, and to roads, streets, wharves, piers, water-works, and telegraphic, telephonic and other electrical signalling lines owned or operated by the Government or by the Stanley Town Council;

“street” includes any way, road, lane, alley, passage or open space, whether a thoroughfare or not, over which the public has a right of way;

“system” means an electrical system in which all the conductors and apparatus are connected to a common source of electro-motive force;

“transformation” includes the transformation of pressure up or down, and the conversion of alternating to direct current, or vice versa, by static, rotary or electro-chemical means.

3. Every notice order or other document under these regulations requiring authentication by the Government shall be sufficiently authenticated if signed by the Superintendent.

4. Where any notice or other document is required by these regulations to be served on or given to any person it shall be either served personally on such person or left at or sent by post to his last usual place of abode or business.

5. Any person who shall fail to comply with any notice or order duly given or made under these regulations shall be deemed to have committed a breach of these regulations.

6. (1) Subject to the provisions of these regulations the installation connected with the supply of electric light or energy for power purposes to the premises of any person shall be provided and fixed by such person at his own expense, and the wiring of the premises shall be effected in accordance with the Regulations for the Electrical Equipment of Buildings published by the Institution of Electrical Engineers of Great Britain as from time to time amended or replaced, unless otherwise authorised by the Superintendent.

(2) A copy of the above-mentioned regulations may be seen on application to the Superintendent.

(3) Any person providing or fixing any installation or wiring any premises in such a manner as to contravene any of the aforesaid regulations shall be deemed to have committed a breach of these regulations.

7. Before any new installation or any addition or alteration to any existing installation is begun, or before the whole or any part of an installation connected with the service of any person such person shall in every case send to the Superintendent —

- (a) notice of his intention to begin such work; and
- (b) a precise description of such proposed work.

8. No energy shall be supplied to any new or altered installation until it has been approved by the Superintendent, who may, if he thinks necessary, test such installation or any part thereof.

9. (1) Notice shall be given to the Superintendent by the owner or occupier of any premises which are, or require to be connected to the main service, if he desires to make use of such service. Such notice shall be recorded by the Superintendent who, subject to the conditions of these regulations, will arrange for such connection to be made. A connection shall constitute an acceptance by the applicant of these regulations.

(2) On connection the applicant as consumer will be liable for the cost of all energy consumed up to the time he gives written notice to the Superintendent that he wishes the service to be discontinued.

10. The general rates to be charged for the supply of electrical energy shall be those fixed by the Governor in Council from time to time and published in the Gazette.

11. (1) The Government may, without incurring any liability for so doing other than a liability to make a proportionate abatement in the charges for the supply, reduce as it may think fit the quantity of energy supplied to any premises, if by reason of any unforeseen circumstances it shall appear that the supply of energy generated is insufficient to enable the full quantity to be conveniently supplied.

(2) The Government shall not be liable for any damage to person or property or for any cessation of the supply of energy which may be due to unavoidable accident, fair wear and tear, or to the reasonable requirements of the system, or to defects in any installation not provided by the Government.

12. (1) The execution of all work in connection with the generation or supply of energy which may affect any street, drainage or water supply, or any telegraphs, telephones, harbour-works or

other public or private works, and also the erection of any apparatus which crosses, whether overhead or underground, any such work as aforesaid shall, independently of any other statutory requirement in that behalf, be carried out in the manner prescribed by these regulations and without danger to public safety or private safety.

(2) When an installation is under construction the Superintendent shall have free access for inspection at all reasonable hours of the work in progress; and all reasonable facilities for such inspection shall be afforded by the persons controlling or carrying on the work.

(3) In addition to periodical inspections during construction and final inspections on completion, all installations while in operation may be inspected by the Superintendent. The licensee and persons in control of all installations shall afford full facilities for inspection within working hours.

13. The Superintendent or any person authorised by him may, for any of the purposes mentioned in this regulation, at any time between the hours of nine in the morning and four in the afternoon or, in the case of urgency, at any other time, enter upon any premises upon which an installation is under construction or is in operation

- (i) to inspect and/or test any wire fitting or apparatus installed or being installed so as to ascertain whether there is likely to be any waste, leakage, obstruction, damage or misuse of electrical energy in connection therewith, and/or to ascertain whether such wire fitting or apparatus complies with the terms of the Electricity Supply Ordinance;
- (ii) to fix, inspect, read, check, clean remove or replace any meter or similar appliance of the Superintendent, used or to be used in connection with the installation;
- (iii) to disconnect the installation from any premises or to diminish, withhold or divert the supply of electrical energy through or by means of any wire fitting or apparatus wholly or in part.

14. Any consumer taking or using energy from an installation shall, if the Superintendent so requires, provide such means for obviating risk of damage to such installation by atmospheric electricity as may be indicated by the Superintendent.

15. No consumer shall use energy supplied to him for purposes other than that for which it is supplied.

16. If the Superintendent shall find in any installation or apparatus any defect which in his opinion is likely to cause danger he may, by notice in writing posted to or served upon the licensee or owner thereof, suspend the operation and use of such installation or apparatus until such defect is made good or removed; and in such case the said installation or apparatus shall not be operated or used so long as the said notice of suspension remains unrevoked.

17. Any person who shall refuse admittance or reasonable information to the Superintendent or any person authorised by him, or to any Police Officer engaged in carrying out the provisions of these regulations or any order duly made thereunder, or in doing any act thereby authorised, shall be deemed to have committed a breach of these regulations.

18. In all cases where notice has under these regulations to be given to the Superintendent, such notice shall be sent to the Power and Electrical Department, and addressed in cases where the supply of energy is involved to the Superintendent.

19. No owner or occupier of any premises whose connection with the main service has been cut off shall re-connect or attempt to re-connect such premises with such service; and no person shall replace, attempt to replace, or cause or suffer to be replaced any main fuses, but a report of any defect thereon should at once be sent to the Superintendent.

20. No person shall alter, extend or in any way interfere with an installation once it has been tested and passed by the Superintendent, unless he has first obtained the approval of the Superin-

tendent to do so; and such alteration, extension or addition must not be used for the conveyance of energy until it has been tested and passed by the Superintendent.

21. Any person finding any trace of damage to, interference with or defect in any part of the service to premises owned or occupied by him and connected with the main service shall immediately give notice to the Superintendent.

22. No person shall wilfully or negligently damage any public lamp, main transformer, house or any part of the electrical service.

23. In the case of the outbreak of fire upon any premises connected with the main service, notice thereof shall immediately be given by the occupier of such premises to the Police Station and also to the Power and Electrical Department.

24. The service connection shall terminate at the meter. The service lines, such fuse or control gear as may be necessary to protect the meter and service, and the meter, shall be provided and fixed by the Government and shall remain the property of the Government. The installation commencing at the outgoing terminals of the meter shall be provided by and at the expense of the consumer and remain the property and responsibility of the consumer.

25. The cost exceeding £5, of the construction of any service lines for the supply of energy from any main to any owner or occupier as may be laid or erected upon the premises of any owner or occupier, and so much of any such service lines as may be necessary to lay or erect from such main, although not on those premises, shall be defrayed by that owner or occupier.

26. All electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, works and apparatus let by or belonging to the Government shall remain the property of the Government, whether they be or be not fixed or fastened to any part of any premises in or upon which they may be situate, or to the soil under any such premises.

27. The Colonial Secretary may, subject to such conditions and restrictions, if any, as he thinks fit to impose, authorise the supply of energy to any person outside the area of supply, and to lay down or place electric lines and all other works for that purpose.

28. The meter shall be fixed at a point to be determined by the Superintendent and as close to the main fuse as may be convenient and the consumer shall provide such connecting loop or loops as may be required by the Superintendent.

29. If the consumer has reason to suppose that the meter is out of order or is registering incorrectly, he shall immediately give notice to the Superintendent who upon request shall test such meter and for every such test a fee of ten shillings shall be paid in advance by the consumer. A meter shall be considered to be correct unless it has an error of over five per centum fast or slow. In the event of the meter being found to have an error of more than five per centum the fee shall be refunded.

30. Should the meter at any time be out of order and register incorrectly, the Government upon receiving notice thereof shall repair or replace such meter as soon as possible, and the quantity of energy to be paid for by the consumer from the date of the meter ceasing to register correctly up to the time of its repair or replacement shall be estimated by the Superintendent upon the basis of the previous consumption of electrical energy in such premises or, in the event of such an estimate being impossible, upon the basis of the subsequent consumption after such repair or replacement has been effected.

31. The consumer shall be bound absolutely by the reading of the meter for the purpose of calculating what money is due from him to the Government for energy supplied during any particular period; and for the purpose of proving such meter-reading he shall be bound by the entry in the books of the Superintendent in which it is recorded. In the absence of evidence showing that either such entry has been incorrectly made or that the meter was at the time of such reading in default, it shall not be necessary to produce the person who read the meter or the person who made the entry in order to prove the reading or entry.

32. (1) The Superintendent may without notice and without paying compensation and without prejudicing the right of Government to obtain payment for energy supplied or for any services rendered to the consumer, discontinue the supply to the consumer in any of the following cases —

- (a) if within twenty-eight days after the date of demand the consumer fails to pay any sum or charge due under these regulations or due for repairs or work executed or services or energy supplied by the Government relating to the installation or due under any agreement with the Government relating to the installation or under any directions or orders given in pursuance of these regulations;
- (b) if, in the opinion of the Superintendent, the consumer —
 - (i) has injured or allowed to be injured any part of the service or the meter; or
 - (ii) has allowed any part of the apparatus connected with the supply of energy to his premises, for the good order of which he is responsible, to become defective; or
 - (iii) has used or allowed the energy to be used in such manner as to interfere with the supply of energy to others; or
 - (iv) has contravened any of the provisions of these regulations; or
 - (v) has tampered or interfered with or has permitted any tampering or interference with any part of the service under the Government control.

(2) In any of the above cases the consumer shall be liable for all damage caused to the Government and also in the event of the Government deciding to renew the connection and to re-commence the supply in consequence of the removal of any such defect or on payment of arrears or for any other cause, all expenses of such re-connection shall also be borne by the consumer.

33. Any test made by the Superintendent shall be accepted by the consumer as binding and final.

34. (1) Any person contravening any of the provisions of regulations 19, 20, and 21 or failing to comply with any notice thereunder shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £50 in respect of each contravention, and in addition to a further fine not exceeding £10 in respect of each contravention for every day upon which such offence shall continue.

(2) Any person contravening any of the other provisions of these regulations shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £10.

35. Every occupier shall be liable for any contravention of these regulations committed upon his premises during his occupancy as though he were the person actually committing such contravention.

36. Every person committing a contravention of these regulations shall in addition to the prescribed fine be liable to recompense the Government for any loss or damage suffered by it in consequence of such contravention.

37. The Electricity Supply Regulations 1951 are hereby revoked.

Made by the Acting Governor in Council this 2nd day of September 1969.

H. L. BOUND,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

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