

# STATUTORY RULES.

## No. 3 of 1925.

Made under the *Port Moresby Electric Light and Power Ordinance, 1925.*

### ELECTRICITY REGULATIONS.

#### *Short title.*

1. These regulations may be cited as the *Electricity Regulations, 1925.*

#### *Supply rates.*

2. The following rates shall be charged for the supply of electricity, to be measured by meter (subject to such alterations as may be determined from time to time):—

Lighting: At the uniform rate of One shilling and Threepence (1s. 3d.) per Unit.

Power: At the rate of Sixpence (6d.) per Unit for the first Three hundred (300) Units per month; at the rate of Four and one-half pence ( $4\frac{1}{2}$ d.) per Unit for the next Seven hundred (700) Units per month; at the rate of Three and three-quarter pence ( $3\frac{3}{4}$ d.) per Unit for the next Five hundred (500) Units per month; at the rate of Threepence (3d.) per Unit for all current consumed over and above Fifteen hundred (1,500) Units per month.

Off-Peak: When the consumer uses not less than seventy-five (75) per centum of his daily consumption of electrical energy between the hours of ten (10) *post meridiem* and eight (8) *ante meridiem* the rate of charge shall be Threepence (3d.) per Unit. The acceptance of applications for the supply of electrical energy at the Off-Peak rate shall be subject to the discretion of the Electric Authority.

#### *Variation of rates.*

3. The Lieutenant-Governor shall have the right, from time to time, to increase or decrease the electricity supply rates if he should deem fit to do so. All such alterations shall be notified in the *Gazette* and such altered rates shall take effect as and from a time fixed in such notification and being at least forty-eight hours after such notification. Consumers will, as and from the time so fixed, pay for electricity consumed by them at the altered rates so notified, unless and until they cease to be consumers of electricity. In cases where, at the rates charged by the Electric Authority, the consumption of electricity is not sufficient to yield a return of Five shillings per month, the sum of Five shillings (5s.) shall be the minimum charge per month.

#### *Deposit.*

4. The Electric Authority may require a security deposit from applicants for a supply of electricity. Applicants will be notified as to the amount of deposit required as determined by the Electric Authority. When such notification has been forwarded no further action will be taken to connect the premises until the deposit has been paid to the Electric Authority.

*Meter rent.*

5. A charge of One shilling and Sixpence (1s. 6d.) per month will be made for one meter.

*Extra meters.*

6. Should any additional meters be required above those necessary to the Electric Authority's purposes, application should be made for them. The application must include an undertaking to pay the cost of fixing, and also to pay a rental of One shilling and Sixpence (1s. 6d.) per month for each additional meter.

*Testing meters.*

7. Any meter will be tested by the Electric Authority's officers on the request of a consumer after prepayment of a fee of Ten shillings (10s.). Should the meter on test be found to be registering more than 2 per cent. in excess of accuracy the fee paid will be refunded. All outstanding accounts must be paid before the test is undertaken.

*Temporary supply.*

8. Where electricity is to be used temporarily, either for lighting or power, it will be charged for at One shilling and Threepence (1s. 3d.) per Unit for lighting and Sixpence (6d.) per Unit for power. All costs of connection and disconnection will also be charged to the consumer. Temporary supply will be charged for where a special connection is made for purposes for which the supply is required for less than a month; the minimum charge for temporary connection will be Ten shillings (10s.) not including electricity.

*Temporary connection.*

9. The following is the scale of charges which will be made for inspection and connection of temporary connections. The charges must be prepaid:—

	£	s.	d.
1. For the inspection and connection of a temporary installation to an existing meter ... ..	0	10	0
2. For the inspection, connection and disconnection of a temporary installation requiring one meter ... ..	1	0	0
3. For the inspection, connection and disconnection of a temporary installation requiring two meters ... ..	1	10	0
4. For the inspection, connection and disconnection of a temporary installation requiring three meters ... ..	2	5	0
Each additional meter ... ..	0	10	0

*Temporary service.*

10. Where it is necessary to lay a temporary service from the mains for building operations or other purposes, an additional charge will be made by the Electric Authority and such charge must be deposited with the Electric Authority before the temporary service is run.

*Floor-polishing machines.*

11. For operating single phase floor-polishing machines where an electric service already exists, a charge of One pound (£1) will be made for connection and disconnection of supply. Electricity will be charged for at Sixpence (6d.) per Unit if used for less than one month.

*Lighting for night sports.*

12. Lighting for night sports will be supplied at the Power rate.

### *Special tests.*

13. Inspection and connection of small power and light installations will be made after the usual working hours at the request of a consumer and upon payment of a fee of Thirty shillings (30s.).

### *Meter registration.*

14. The register of any meter installed or authorized by the Electric Authority for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied shall be prima facie evidence of such quantity.

### *Accounts.*

15. Accounts will be rendered weekly, monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly, as the Electric Authority shall decide, and shall be payable at the office of the Electric Authority. No receipt shall be valid unless on the official receipt form. In the case of neglect or refusal to pay any amount due within fourteen days after rendering the account, the Electric Authority may disconnect the supply and remove the meter after twenty-four (24) hours' notice in writing, and a re-connection of the service will only be made when all amounts owing by the consumer have been paid, and, in addition, a re-connecting fee of Five shillings (5s.).

### *Mains—point of attachment.*

16. The Electric Authority will supply and bear the cost of bringing the mains to the nearest point of attachment on a building, provided that such point of attachment does not exceed twenty-five feet from the allotment line; the cost of all work beyond that point to be borne by the consumer. All work must be carried out and maintained in accordance with the regulations, the rules of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, and to the approval of the Electric Authority.

### *Premises more than 100 feet from main.*

17. If an application for a supply of electricity is made for premises, the allotment line of which is more than 100 feet from a Government main, the Electric Authority shall have power to refuse such application. He may, however, connect such premises to the Government mains provided the applicant pays to the Electric Authority an amount equal to the estimated cost, as determined by the Electric Authority, of the additional work. The granting or refusal of all such applications shall be in the discretion of the Electric Authority.

### *Service cut-outs, meters, etc.*

18. The Electric Authority will fix two service cut-outs, meters and meter-board, which shall remain the property of the Government. The position of the service cut-outs and meters will be fixed by the Electric Authority and will be placed as near as convenient to the service leads. All other equipment must be provided by the consumer.

### *Leads—fixing.*

19. The consumer must supply and fix leads in accordance with the rules of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, between the termination of the mains, the service cut-outs, meter and meter-board.

### *Connecting leads to mains.*

20. The consumer must not connect the leads at the mains, service cut-outs or meters—this work will be carried out solely by the Electric Authority.

### *Attachments to building.*

21. The consumer shall allow the Electric Authority to make such attachments to the building as may be necessary to bring the mains into the building.



*Supply through meter or otherwise.*

22. No electricity will be supplied except through a meter, and the lighting and power circuits must be installed quite separately of each other, with separate distribution boards, and each installation requiring more than 15 amperes must be divided into separate circuits from the main: Provided that in any case where a meter is not available, or if for any reason the Electric Authority does not consider it advisable to supply electricity on meter, the rate of pay shall be a flat rate to be determined by the Lieutenant-Governor.

*Additions and alterations to installations.*

23. A consumer shall not make any addition, substitution or alteration to the electrical installation on his premises which involves, in respect to lamps, increase of lighting strength or of power (measured in watts, kilowatts or horse-power), or in respect of motors, cooking, heating or other apparatus, increase of power (measured as aforesaid), until notice shall have been given to the Electric Authority of such addition, substitution or alteration, and approval has been given to same. If such notice be not given the Electric Authority may, without prejudice to any other remedy, cut off the consumer's supply.

*Failure of supply.*

24. The Electric Authority will not be responsible for failure in the supply from whatever cause arising.

*Access to premises.*

25. The consumer shall give access to his or her premises at all reasonable times to duly authorized officers of the Electric Authority, on the production of an authority signed by the Electric Authority, for the purpose of inspection and for reading the meter.

*Tests.*

26. On completion of the consumer's installation, and before connection to the mains, the Electric Authority's officers will inspect and test the installation. Should any such test and inspection show that the installation does not comply with the regulations and the rules of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, no connection will be made until such regulations and rules are, in the opinion of the Electric Authority's officers, complied with. No charge will be made for the first test and inspection but a charge of Ten shillings (10s.) will be made for each and every subsequent test and inspection made by the Electric Authority's officers.

*Damage to meters, fuses or other apparatus.*

27. The consumer shall be held responsible for any loss or damage to meters, fuses or other apparatus the property of the Government on the consumer's premises, whether by fire or other causes.

*Discontinuing supply.*

28. The Electric Authority shall have the right, from time to time, to discontinue the supply of electricity at such times as he may desire for the purpose of testing, or for any other purpose connected with the efficient working of the service.

*Switches—control.*

29. No switch, except the main switch, shall control more than 10 amperes, except with the special permission of the Electric Authority. All single pole switches must be connected on that pole between which and the earth there is the greatest potential difference. No single pole switches will be allowed in connection with 415-Volt motors.

*Conductors not to be earthed.*

30. No conductor in a consumer's installation shall be connected to earth, and all conductors must be equally insulated as provided in the Electrical Wiring Rules of the Institution of Engineers, Australia.

*Aerial conductors.*

31. No aerial conductor may at any part of its length be less than fourteen feet from the ground or less than seven feet above a flat roof. A flat roof in this case means one on which a man may stand upright without difficulty.

*Cables outside buildings.*

32. Conductors run on the outside of a building must either be enclosed in screwed conduit or fixed not less than fourteen feet above the ground and not less than four feet from any door or window opening.

*Fittings near earthed piping.*

33. Switches or fittings must not be installed above or in close proximity to stoves, laundry tubs, sinks or baths.

*Switches in damp positions.*

34. Metal-covered switches fixed in damp places, bath-rooms, cellars or in any position in which the operator may be in contact with earth or within reach of any earthed metal, must have their covers earthed.

*Switches to be on non-earthed conductors.*

35. The ends of non-earthed conductors to which all single pole switches must be connected in accordance with Rule No. 26 of the Electrical Wiring Rules of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, must be labelled "switch-wire" in order that the Electric Authority may correctly connect the consumer's leads to the service leads.

*Switchboards—live metal to be covered.*

36. The live metal of all switchboards must be covered, except switchboards erected in engine rooms especially set apart for switchboards.

*Isolation of circuits—power and light.*

37. Every consumer's main switchboard must be distinctly labelled for identification and the main fuses must be controlled by the main switch. All feeders to distribution boards must be controlled by circuit fuses. Lighting circuits must be entirely isolated from the power circuits from the service fuses onwards and must be connected to separate switchboards. A single set of mains for light and power may be run in one conduit from the service fuses to the meters if a distribution point is provided at the meters, consisting of one sealed ironclad isolating link for each conductor.

*Nature and protection of consumer's leads.*

38. The consumer's main switchboard may be placed in any convenient position on his premises. The conductors between the point of entry and the consumer's main switch must be enclosed in steel conduit, must be stranded and be of adequate sectional area which in no case may be less than that of a 7/036-in. cable.

*Switches and fuses to be ironclad.*

39. In cases where the main switches and fuses are fixed on the supply side of the meter, they must be ironclad and suitable for sealing with the Electric Authority's seal.

### *Water heaters.*

40. Water heaters in which the heating element is in direct contact with the water will not be connected if the resistance between the heating element and earth is less than 10,000 ohms with the water running. The water must not leave the heater at above earth potential.

Water heaters will not be connected if the current required is greater than the following :—

For connection to—

a 240-Volt service, 15 amperes.

a 3-phase 415-Volt service, 12 amperes.

The heater must be arranged so that the electricity consumed may be measured by one meter and in the case of the 3-phase heater the current in the phases must be balanced as nearly as practicable. The current in one phase must not be greater than the current in any other phase by more than 2 per cent.

### *Electric cookers.*

41. The maximum current taken by electric cookers must not be greater than the following :—

When connected to a 2-wire service, 15 amperes (about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  kilowatts).

When connected to a 3-wire service, 30 amperes (about 7 kilowatts).

### *Electric welding apparatus.*

42. Electricity may be supplied for electric welding apparatus provided the power required is not greater than can be carried by the mains serving the premises without adversely affecting the supply to neighbouring consumers. The maximum size of the welder which will be connected at any premises will be given on supplying particulars to the Electric Authority.

### *Special lighting.*

43. Special lighting, such as the lighting of wet factory premises, garden lighting, designs for public illuminations and the like, also all lighting of a temporary nature, must be referred to the Electric Authority and approval obtained before the work is connected.

### *Interference with the supply to other consumers.*

44. Applicants wishing to connect electric welding apparatus, furnaces, X-ray outfits, rapidly fluctuating motor loads and the like should first communicate with the Electric Authority and ascertain what conditions they should observe with regard to such apparatus.

In the event of a consumer operating any such apparatus aforesaid or any lift or motor in such a manner as will interfere with the supply to other consumers, the Electric Authority may call upon him to make such necessary adjustments or alterations and to so operate the apparatus as to ensure that the supply to other consumers will not be interfered with and, in the event of his failing to do so, the Electric Authority may cut off the supply of electricity to him. The fact that the Electric Authority shall have connected and approved of the apparatus aforesaid shall not be taken to exempt the consumer from the operation of this clause.

### *Concentric wiring.*

45. No supply will be given to premises wired on the concentric system using a n uninsulated "outer" conductor.



*Inspection.*

46. No new installation and no additions to an existing installation may be connected until it has been inspected and approved by the Electric Authority's Inspector (See Clause 8—Terms and Conditions of Supply). In the lighting installation the lamps must not be fitted in the holders until the installations have been inspected, tested and approved for connection.

*Defects on installation.*

47. If any defect in a consumer's installation is at any time discovered, the Electric Authority shall be at liberty to disconnect the installation until such defect is made good.

*Motor switching and starting arrangement.*

48. The starting and switching arrangement for motors must be so designed as to prevent all perceptible disturbances and flicker of glow lamps connected to the mains in the neighbourhood. The starting current shall be noted previously. Motors with a power factor of less than 80 per cent. will not be connected.

*Motor—automatic circuit breakers.*

49. The Electric Authority will seal automatic circuit breakers used for alternating current motors at the following settings:—

Motors up to 7 H.P., at 200 per cent. of full load amperes.

Motors from 8 to 12 H.P., at 175 per cent. of full load amperes.

Motors from 13 to 25 H.P., at 150 per cent. of full load amperes.

Motors from 26 to 100 H.P., at 136 per cent. of full load amperes.

*Interference with seal.*

50. The consumer must not interfere with or remove the seals from the meter or other apparatus, and no person other than an officer of the Electric Authority shall be permitted to make any connection between the consumer's installation and the mains.

*Requests for supply.*

51. All requests for supply or extensions of supply of electricity must be made on the printed form supplied by the Electric Authority for the purpose.

*Liability for loss.*

52. The Electric Authority shall not be liable for any loss suffered by any person in consequence of any failure to supply electricity or light, or of defect in such supply.

*Premises unsuitable for electrical installation.*

53. Should the Electric Authority consider that any premises are unsuited to the purpose of carrying an electrical installation he may decline to supply electricity to such premises.

*Reports to Lieutenant-Governor of accidents.*

54. Where any accident by explosion or fire, or any other accident of such kind as to have caused or to be likely to have caused loss of life or personal injury, has occurred at any part of any electric line or other works the Electric Authority shall give immediate notice thereof to the Lieutenant-Governor.

*Wasting electricity.*

55. Every person who maliciously causes to be wasted or diverted any electricity shall be guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction and shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty pounds.

*Damage to works.*

56. Any person who shall wilfully or negligently injure or damage or cause to be injured or damaged any of the works under the control of the Electric Authority shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding Twenty pounds, and in addition he shall be liable for the cost of repairing any such injury or damage. Nothing herein contained shall operate as a bar to proceedings under any other law or laws for the time being in force: Provided always that no person shall be liable to be punished twice for the same offence.

Made in Executive Council this second day of March, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five.

Executive Council Minute,  
No. 5 of 10/1925.

JAS. W. BALDIE,  
Acting Clerk of Executive Council.

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