1970. No. 136 [C]

COAL AND OTHER MINES

Sanitary Conveniences

REGULATIONS, DATED 1ST JUNE 1970, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE UNDER SECTION 120 OF THE MINES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1969.

WHEREAS in pursuance of Part I of Schedule 2 to the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(a) the Ministry of Commerce has published notice of its intention to make the following regulations and has not received any objection to the draft thereof in respect to which it is required to refer the draft regulations for inquiry and report:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ministry of Commerce in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 120 of the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969 and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation

1. These regulations may be cited as the Coal and Other Mines (Sanitary Conveniences) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970.

Application

2. These regulations shall apply to every mine of coal, stratified ironstone, shale or fireclay, and in these regulations "mine" means such a mine.

Interpretation

3. In these regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say—

"the Act" means the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969;

"mine" has the meaning assigned thereto in regulation 2.

Location and construction of sanitary conveniences

4. It shall be the duty of the manager of every mine to ensure that sanitary conveniences provided at the mine in pursuance of section 94 of the Act are provided—

(*a*) in or adjacent to the winding engine house;

(*b*) at such other suitable places above ground as may be requisite in order to afford to every person employed at the mine convenient access to one at least of such conveniences;

(*c*) at or adjacent to every entrance below ground to every shaft and outlet, being an entrance ordinarily used by persons for the purpose of getting to or from their working places in the mine; and

(*d*) at suitable places along any length of road below ground, being a length which is a main intake airway or a main return airway for the purposes of the Coal and Other Mines (Ventilation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(b) so far as may be requisite for persons normally employed at places along that length of road.

(a) 1969. c. 6 (N.I.). (b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970, No. 125.

5. It shall be the duty of the manager of every mine to ensure—

(*a*) that all sanitary conveniences provided above ground at the mine are—

(i) under cover; and

(ii) so screened as to secure privacy for persons using them;

(*b*) that in any case where persons of both sexes are, or are intended to be, employed at the mine, every sanitary convenience provided above ground at the mine for the use of persons of one sex is—

(i) so placed or screened that, whatever the position for the time being of any door thereto, no part of the interior of that convenience can be seen from any place where any person of the other sex may work or pass; and

(ii) (if it adjoins a sanitary convenience provided for the use of persons of the other sex) readily approachable by a way separate from every way of approach to that other convenience; and

(*c*) that every sanitary convenience provided at the mine for the use of females is provided with a door which can be firmly secured on the inside when shut.

Equipment and cleaning of sanitary conveniences

6. The manager of every mine shall make and secure the efficient carrying out of arrangements whereby (except in the case of urinals, water-closets and conveniences so constructed and used that any deposit flows therefrom to a separate container and is therein chemically treated)—

(*a*) an adequate supply of disinfectant, dry coal dust, or other suitable substance for covering faeces is constantly provided in a suitable receptacle at every sanitary convenience at the mine;

(*b*) every sanitary convenience below ground at the mine is provided with a portable receptacle with a lid, both being made of suitable material;

(*c*) every receptacle provided in pursuance of sub-paragraph (b) is, at such intervals as may be necessary and in any case at intervals not exceeding seven days, emptied above ground or below ground in waste, and cleaned; and

(*d*) the contents of every such receptacle emptied below ground in any waste are forthwith disposed of in that waste in a hygienic manner.

Use of Sanitary conveniences

7.—(1) No person shall relieve his bowels at a mine above ground or on a road below ground otherwise than in a sanitary convenience.

(2) No person shall improperly soil or render unfit for use any sanitary convenience at a mine or any sanitary utensil or appliance provided for use at such a sanitary convenience.

(3) Every person who relieves his bowels below ground at a mine (otherwise than in a water-closet or a convenience so constructed and used that any deposit flows therefrom to a separate container and is therein chemically treated) shall forthwith cover the faeces with disinfectant, dry coal dust, or other suitable substance.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Commerce for Northern Ireland this 1st day of June 1970 in the presence of

(L.S.)

J. H. Armstrong,
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These regulations deal with the location, construction, equipment, cleaning and use of sanitary conveniences at mines of coal, stratified ironstone, shale and fireclay.