STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1975 No. 1022

RATING AND VALUATION

The Rating Surcharge (Exemption of Unused Commercial Buildings) Regulations 1975

Made - - - -	23*rd June* 1975
Laid before Parliament	24*th June* 1975
Coming into Operation	25*th June* 1975

The Secretary of State for the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred by paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to the General Rate Act 1967(**a**) as extended by section 17B(6) of the General Rate Act 1967 (the second mentioned of those provisions having been inserted by section 16 of the Local Government Act 1974(**b**)) and now vested in him(**c**), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Rating Surcharge (Exemption of Unused Commercial Buildings) Regulations 1975 and shall come into operation on 25th June 1975.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(**d**) applies to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2.—(1) No surcharge shall be payable under section 17A of the General Rate Act 1967 in respect of a commercial building for any period of non-use during which—

(*a*) any person in good faith intends to carry out relevant works and is trying his best to procure the carrying out of those works, or

(*b*) relevant works are being carried out with reasonable despatch,

and in consequence thereof the building or such part as is not used cannot reasonably be used for the purpose for which it was constructed or has been adapted.

(2) In this regulation "relevant works" means works to adapt the building or part thereof to the reasonable requirements of a person who intends to use the building, or that part, for the purpose for which it was constructed or has been adapted.

John Silkin,
Minister for Planning
and Local Government,
Department of the Environment.

Signed by authority of
the Secretary of State.

23rd June 1975.

(**a**) 1967 c. 9.
(**b**) 1974 c. 7.
(**c**) S.I. 1970/1681 (1970 III, p. 5551).
(**d**) 1889 c. 63.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

Section 17A of, and Schedule 1 to, the General Rate Act 1967 provide for the levying of a surcharge additional to the rates (if any) payable in respect of commercial buildings during certain periods of non-use.

These Regulations exempt commercial buildings from liability for the surcharge during any period in which any person is trying his best to procure the carrying out of works, or during which the works are being carried out, being in either case works to adapt the building to the reasonable requirements of an intending occupier, and the building cannot be used by reason thereof.

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