STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2010 No. 27

ELECTRICITY AND GAS

Electricity and Gas (Billing) (No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010

Made - - - - 5th February 2010

Coming into operation 8th March 2010

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, is designated for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(**1**) in relation to measures relating to the regulation of the electricity sector and measures relating to natural gas and oil.

The Department makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by that section.

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Electricity and Gas (Billing) (No 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 and shall come into operation on 8th March 2010.

Interpretation

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(**2**) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Assembly.

(2) In these Regulations—

"electricity supplier" shall be construed in accordance with regulation 3(1);

"Energy Order" means The Energy (Northern Ireland) Order 2003(**3**);

"gas supplier" shall be construed in accordance with the regulation 3(2);

"domestic consumer" means—

(a) in relation to a gas supplier, any person who has contracted with that supplier for a supply of gas which is reasonably expected not to exceed 2,500 therms in each year; and

(b) in relation to an electricity supplier, any person who has contracted with the supplier for a supply of electricity at any premises used wholly or mainly for domestic purposes;

(**1**) 1972 c.68
(**2**) 1954 c.23 (N.I.)
(**3**) S.I. 2003/419 (N.1.6)

"domestic premises" in relation to any domestic consumer means the premises where the supply of gas or electricity to that person is taken;

"corresponding period" shall be construed—

(a) in relation to a bill or statement of account sent by an electricity supplier, in accordance with regulation 4; and

(b) in relation to a bill or statement of account sent by a gas supplier, in accordance with regulation 5.

Billing information

3.—(1) Any person who holds a licence under Article 10(1)(c) of the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992(**4**) ("an electricity supplier") shall provide each domestic consumer supplied by that person with electricity with the information referred to in regulation 4.

(2) Any person who holds a licence under Article 9(1)(c) of the Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996(**5**) ("a gas supplier") shall provide each domestic consumer supplied by that person with gas with the information referred to in regulation 5.

(3) The requirement in paragraph (1) only applies if the supplier has been contracted to give a supply of electricity to the same domestic consumer at the same domestic premises throughout the period—

(a) commencing with the start of the corresponding period; and

(b) ending with the end of the period to which the bill or statement of account relates.

(4) The requirement in paragraph (2) only applies if the supplier has been contracted to give a supply of gas to the same domestic consumer at the same domestic premises throughout the period—

(a) commencing with the start of the corresponding period; and

(b) ending with the end of the period to which the bill or statement of account relates.

(5) The requirement in paragraph (1) does not apply if the domestic consumer has been supplied with a meter which provides that consumer with accurate information about their actual electricity consumption and its actual time of use throughout—

(a) the period covered by the bill or statement of account; and

(b) the corresponding period in the previous year.

(6) The requirement in paragraph (2) does not apply if the domestic consumer has been supplied with a meter which provides that consumer with accurate information about their actual gas consumption and its actual time of use throughout—

(a) the period covered by the bill or statement of account; and

(b) the corresponding period in the previous year.

4. The information referred to in regulation 3(1) is a comparison of the consumer's consumption of electricity in the period covered by the bill or statement of account with the same consumer's consumption of electricity for the corresponding period in the previous year ("the corresponding period").

5. The information referred to in regulation 3(2) is a comparison of the consumer's consumption of gas in the period covered by the bill or statement of account with the same consumer's consumption of gas for the corresponding period in the previous year ("the corresponding period").

(**4**) S.I. 1993/231 (N.I.1)
(**5**) S.I. 1996/275 (N.I.2)