1991 No. 371

HEALTH AND SAFETY

MINES

Miscellaneous Mines (Metrication) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991

Made	*13th August 1991*
Coming into operation	*7th October 1991*

The Department of Economic Development, being the Department concerned(**a**), in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 45 and 55(2) of the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(**b**), and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, after consultation in accordance with Article 46(1) of that Order with the Health and Safety Agency for Northern Ireland and such other bodies as appeared to it to be appropriate, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Miscellaneous Mines (Metrication) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991 and shall come into operation on 7th October 1991.

(2) In these Regulations "the principal Regulations" means the Miscellaneous Mines (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**c**).

Amendments to regulations to substitute metric measurements for imperial measurements

2. The provisions of the principal Regulations specified in column 1 of the Schedule shall be amended by substituting for the measurements set out opposite thereto in column 3 the measurements set out in the corresponding entry in column 4.

Amendments to the principal Regulations

3. The principal Regulations shall have effect subject to the following amendments:—

(*a*) in regulation 49(*a*) for the words "570° Fahr or 299° Cent" there shall be substituted "300°C" and for the words "685° Fahr or 363° Cent" there shall be substituted "365°C", and

(*b*) in regulation 49(*c*) the words "212° Fahr or" shall be deleted.

(**a**) *See* Article 2(2) of S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)
(**b**) 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)
(**c**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 104

Application to existing premises and plant or premises and plant under construction

4.—(1) Where any premises or plant in existence or under construction immediately before the coming into operation of these Regulations complied with the requirements of the principal Regulations as then in force, then those premises or that plant shall be deemed to comply with the principal Regulations as amended by these Regulations.

(2) Notwithstanding regulation 2, regulation 26(5)(*a*) of the principal Regulations as in force immediately before the date of coming into operation of these Regulations shall continue to apply in relation to any haulage road in existence at that date.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Economic Development on 13th August 1991.

(L.S.) *A. W. Hamilton*
Assistant Secretary

SCHEDULE Regulation 2

Amendments to Principal Regulations

Column 1 *Regulations to be amended*	**Column 2** *Subject-matter of measurement(s)*	**Column 3** *Present measurement*	**Column 4** *Substituted measurement*
1. Regulation 5(2)	Scale of plans of abandoned workings	Forty inches to the mile	1:1584
2. Regulation 11	(*a*) Maximum distance between top of and lowest entrance to a shaft or staple pit before guides need be provided	(*a*) One hundred and fifty feet	(*a*) 45 metres
	(*b*) Maximum depth of shaft or staple pit in course of being sunk before guides need be provided	(*b*) Three hundred feet	(*b*) 90 metres
3. Regulation 16(2)	Speed of winding apparatus above which an automatic contrivance to prevent overwinding must be fitted	Twelve feet per second	4 metres per second
4. Regulation 25(*a*)	Maximum permitted speed of vehicles in haulage roads, where persons may pass on foot	Six miles per hour	2.7 metres per second
5. Regulation 25(*b*)	Minimum permitted clearance in haulage roads, where persons may pass on foot while vehicles are moving	Two feet	600 millimetres
6. Regulation 26(1)(*a*)	(*a*) Maximum speed of vehicle in a haulage road	(*a*) Four miles per hour	(*a*) 1.8 metres per second
	(*b*) Maximum permitted distance between refuge holes in certain circumstances	(*b*) Three hundred feet	(*b*) 90 metres