1970. No. 127 **[C]**

COAL AND OTHER MINES

Precautions against Inrushes

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 (Precautions against Inrushes) 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;

"the Ministry" means the Ministry of Commerce.

4.—(1) Without prejudice to the generality of section 75 of the Act, no working which is approaching and within one hundred and fifty feet of the surface shall be carried on in any mine, unless the manager has sufficient information about the nature of the material between the working and the surface to determine whether it may cause danger to persons working in the mine:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply where there is another working or a disused working vertically above the working in question at a distance not less than thirty feet or five times the thickness of the seam to be worked whichever is the greater.

(2) No working shall be carried on at any place in any mine if there is evidence that within one hundred and fifty feet thereof there may be any peat, moss, sand, gravel, silt or other material that is likely to flow when wet,

(a) 1969, c. 6 (N.I.).