

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Supplementary Order Paper

Wednesday, 7 November 1979

ELECTRIC POWER BOARDS AMENDMENT BILL

Proposed Amendments

Hon. Mr Birch, in Committee, to move the following amendments:

Clause 2A: To insert, after clause 2 on page 2, the following clause:

2A. Boards may insure members against personal accident while engaged in duties—(1) The principal Act is hereby further amended by inserting, after section 44, the following section:

“44A. Any Board may from time to time enter into contracts of insurance insuring members of the Board against loss from personal accident arising out of and in the course of the exercise of their powers or duties as members of the Board and pay the premiums payable in respect of such contracts.”

(2) The Statutes Amendment Act 1941 is hereby consequentially amended by repealing section 23.

Clause 7A: To insert, after clause 7 on page 4, the following clause:

7A. New sections relating to supply of gas—The principal Act is hereby further amended by inserting, after section 82B (as inserted by section 5 of the Electric Power Boards Amendment Act 1972), the following sections:

“82c. **Board may supply gas—**(1) For the purposes of this section and sections 82D and 82E of this Act—

“‘Compressed natural gas’ means natural gas contained in pressure vessels or in containers at a pressure, in each case, greater than 200 kilopascals gauge:

“‘Gas’ means manufactured gas, natural gas, compressed natural gas, and liquefied petroleum gas:

“‘Liquefied petroleum gas’ means propane, propylene, butane, butylene, or iso-butane supplied in containers; and includes any mixture consisting wholly or principally of any such substances supplied in such containers, whether or not the mixture contains any other hydrocarbon:

“Natural gas’ means any naturally occurring hydrocarbon in a gaseous state or any mixture of any such hydrocarbons, together with any naturally associated non-hydrocarbon; and includes any such substance both before and after it has been subjected to any treatment or process for purification, separation of constituents, liquefaction, or other purpose.

“(2) Subject to any other provision of this Act and any other enactment—

“(a) The Board may, with the consent of the Governor-General given by Order in Council under section 20B of the Gas Industry Act 1958, and subject to any conditions specified in that order, supply piped manufactured or natural gas to the inhabitants of the district:

“Provided that the consent of the Governor-General shall not be required in any case where at the commencement of this Act the Board is supplying such gas to the inhabitants of the district:

“(b) The Board may, with the consent of the Governor-General given by Order in Council, subject to any conditions specified in that order, supply compressed natural gas or liquefied petroleum gas within the district:

“Provided that the consent of the Governor-General shall not be given unless in his opinion an adequate supply of compressed natural gas or, as the case may be, liquefied petroleum gas is not available in the district and will not be available in the district within a reasonable period from any other person carrying on or about to commence to carry on business within the district:

“Provided further that the consent of the Governor-General shall not be required to the establishment of works by the Board, either alone or jointly with 1 or more other Boards, for the supply of compressed natural gas for use by the Board, or, as the case may be, for use by the Board and the other Board or Boards, and not for supply to the public.

“82D. Gas reticulation—(1) The Board that is for the time being supplying piped gas to the inhabitants of the district—

“(a) Shall, upon the written application of the owner or occupier of any land on which there is a building that is within 100 metres of any main gas pipe of adequate capacity; and

“(b) May, upon the written application of the owner or occupier of any other land,—
install such service pipes, fittings, and gas meters as are necessary to supply the building or land, as the case may be, with such gas and to measure the quantity consumed.

“(2) In any case to which subsection (1) of this section applies, the Board may, if it thinks fit,—

“(a) Lay at its own cost such service pipes as may be necessary from the main gas pipe to the boundary

of the premises of the applicant, or, where the cost does not exceed \$400 (or such greater amount as the Minister fixes from time to time, by notice in the *Gazette*), from the main gas pipe to the gas meter on the premises of the applicant; or

“(b) Require the applicant to pay the cost of the same;— but all service pipes on the premises and all fittings on the premises shall be paid for by the applicant.

“(3) The Board may, in its discretion, either require the applicant to pay the cost of any gas meter or install the same at its own cost and charge such rent therefor as may be prescribed by bylaws in that behalf.

“(4) The Board may, before commencing any work authorised by this section, require the applicant to deposit a sum equal to the estimated cost thereof, or the portion thereof payable by the applicant, as the case may be.

“(5) In any such case the Board and the applicant may agree in writing that any money payable under this section to the Board shall be payable by such instalments as the Board thinks fit, with interest.

“82E. Application of other provisions of Act to supply of gas—The provisions of this Act, as far as they are applicable, and with any necessary modifications, shall apply to the purchase, acquisition, construction, and carrying on of any gas undertaking, the distribution, supply, and sale of gas, and the conduct of any business incidental thereto by the Board under this Act to the same extent as those provisions apply with respect to the electric works and undertakings of the Board, and the gas undertakings shall be deemed to form part of the undertaking of the Board.”

Clause 12: To omit this clause.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Clauses 2A and 12 retain the provision in the Statutes Amendment Act 1941 enabling Electric Power Boards to insure members against personal accident, but transfer the provision to the principal Act.

Clause 7A inserts 3 new sections in the principal Act.

The new section 82c empowers Electric Power Boards, with the consent of the Governor-General given by Order in Council, to supply piped gas, compressed natural gas, and liquefied petroleum gas in the same manner and to the same extent as territorial authorities are so authorised under Part XXX of the Local Government Act 1974, as inserted by the Local Government Amendment Bill.

The new section 82d deals with gas reticulation.

The new section 82e gives the Board the necessary ancillary powers to deal with the supply of gas.
