

1972/68



THE COAL MINES REGULATIONS 1939, AMENDMENT NO. 15

ARTHUR PORRITT, Governor-General

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government Buildings at Wellington this 27th day of March 1972

Present:

THE RIGHT HON. J. R. MARSHALL PRESIDING IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the Coal Mines Act 1925, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following regulations.

REGULATIONS

1. Title and commencement—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Coal Mines Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 15, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Coal Mines Regulations 1939* (hereinafter referred to as the principal regulations).

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the day after the date of their notification in the *Gazette*.

2. Duties of manager—Regulation 76 of the principal regulations is hereby amended by adding the following subclause:

“(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subclause (1) of this regulation, in any mine where machines of the continuous-miner type are in operation the width of places may, with the written approval of the Inspector, be driven up to a maximum of 18 ft.”

3. Internal combustion engines—The principal regulations are hereby further amended by inserting, after regulation 165, the following heading and regulations:

“INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES

“165A. Permission required to install—(1) No internal combustion engine shall be installed underground in a mine without the approval in writing of the Inspector.

“(2) No internal combustion-engined vehicle, other than a diesel-engined vehicle of a flameproof type approved by the Inspector, shall be used underground in a mine. All electrical equipment on any such diesel-engined vehicle shall be maintained in accordance with the Coal Mines Electrical Regulations 1962†, so far as they are applicable.

*Reprinted with Amendments Nos. 1 to 13: S.R. 1968/82
Amendment No. 14: S.R. 1970/151
†S.R. 1962/169

“165B. Recording of engine number—Every internal combustion engine used underground in a mine shall have an official number to be allocated by the Inspector.

“165c. Defective engines forbidden—No internal combustion engine shall be used underground in a mine if it has any defect that may affect its safe operation.

“165d. Inspection of engines and vehicles—(1) All internal combustion engines used underground in a mine shall be examined at such intervals as may be fixed by the Inspector.

“(2) The person making such inspections shall be appointed in writing by the manager of the mine.

“(3) The results of such inspections and the actions taken to remedy defects, if any, shall be recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose in the manager’s office, and such book shall be available for inspection at any time by the Inspector.

“(4) Diesel-engined vehicles used underground in a mine shall also be examined daily by a competent person, other than the driver, and at least once a week by a competent diesel engineer or mechanic.

“(5) The results of such inspections and the actions taken to remedy defects, if any, shall be recorded in the book provided in accordance with subclause (3) of this regulation.

“165E. Age limit of driver—No person under the age of 20 years shall be employed to drive any diesel-engined vehicle underground in a mine.

“165F. Specification of oil fuel—Oil used for fuelling diesel-engined vehicles used underground in a mine shall have a flash point of not less than 65.5°C open cup as determined in the manner indicated in the current British Standard Specification, shall not have a sulphur content of more than 0.5 percent by weight, and shall be free from water, sediment, and dirt.

“165G. Servicing station—(1) All diesel-engined vehicles used underground in a mine shall be fuelled and serviced on the surface at a service station approved by the Inspector.

“(2) Fuelling shall be by means of a pump and hose, or other method approved by the Inspector, and shall be carried out only on the surface.

“(3) No naked lights or smoking shall be allowed at the service station while fuelling or servicing is in progress.

“165H. Fire precautions—(1) Fire extinguishers of a type approved by the Inspector shall be installed on all diesel-engined vehicles and at service stations.

“(2) Buckets of dry sand shall be provided at all service stations.

“165I. Diesel engines not to be operated in certain places—A diesel-engined vehicle shall not be operated in any working place where coal is being produced, or allowed beyond a point or points in the mine, to be stipulated from time to time by the Inspector.

“165j. Ventilation standards—(1) Diesel-engined vehicles shall be used underground only in intake airways where air for ventilation of the airways is drawn from the purest possible source and shall include, in addition to a supply of air sufficient for the maximum number of men employed in the mine at one time, a supply of air for any diesel-engined equipment operating in the mine of sufficient quantity to provide not less than 10,000 cubic feet per minute in the airway.

“(2) Diesel-engined vehicles shall not be used in airways if the general atmosphere contains more than—

“(a) 0.002 percent of carbon monoxide; or

“(b) 0.25 percent of carbon dioxide; or

“(c) 0.0005 percent of nitrogen dioxide; or

“(d) 0.0005 percent of formaldehyde; or

“(e) 0.5 percent of methane.

“165k. Dispersal of gas—If concentrations of any one of the gases referred to in subclause (2) of regulation 165j of these regulations are exceeded, immediate steps shall be taken to disperse the concentrations and the engine shall not be operated until it is found that the concentrations of gases are below the limits specified in that subclause.

“165l. Tests for gas—(1) Tests for carbon monoxide and oxides of nitrogen shall be made as often as may be required by the Inspector, but not less than once in each 24 hours.

“(2) Tests for methane shall be carried out at least once in each working shift by a mine official, who shall use a methometer approved by the Inspector for the purpose of each test.

“(3) Tests for carbon dioxide and formaldehyde shall be carried out as often as may be required by the Inspector, but not less than once in each week.

“(4) The results of the tests shall be entered in a book, to be kept at the mine for the purpose, by the person who made the tests.

“165m. Exhaust scrubbers—(1) Diesel-engined vehicles used underground in a mine shall be fitted with exhaust gas scrubbers of a design approved by the Inspector.

“(2) The tanks of exhaust gas scrubbers shall be cleaned and filled with fresh water as often as is necessary to maintain efficient operation, but not less than once in each working shift.

“165n. Engines not to be left running—Diesel-engined vehicles used underground in a mine shall not be left running while the vehicles are stationary except for short periods which shall not exceed 1 minute.

“165o. Black smoke—No diesel-engined vehicle shall be operated underground in a mine if its exhaust fumes contain black smoke.

“165p. Low water cut-off switch—Before the start of each working shift, a test shall be made to determine the operation of the low water cut-off switch. The test shall be such that the engine is stopped by the operation of the low water cut-off switch. The vehicle shall not be used if the cut-off switch fails to stop the engine.

“165q. Testing of brakes—At least once in every week, the braking system of every diesel-engined vehicle shall be examined and tested by a competent person and the results, along with any defects found, shall be recorded in a book to be kept for the purpose.

“165r. Sampling undiluted exhaust gases—(1) At least once in every 4 weeks, the undiluted gases of every diesel-engined vehicle shall be sampled and analysed, and if the carbon monoxide content or the nitrogen dioxide content is found to exceed 0.1 percent, the engine shall not be used until the quality of the exhaust gases is brought within those limits.

“(2) The samples of the exhaust gases shall be taken when the engine is being run at maximum speed on full load and at idling speed on no load.

“(3) A copy of each analysis shall be forwarded immediately to the Inspector.

“165s. Laboratory analysis of exhaust gases—At least once every 6 months, a laboratory chemical analysis of undiluted exhaust gas samples shall be carried out.

“165r. Fuel pump to be sealed—The engine fuel pump shall be sealed or locked to prevent tampering. The seal shall be broken only by a competent person authorised by the Inspector when it is necessary to reset the fuel pump, after which the pump shall be resealed.

“165u. Engines on surface—If any internal combustion engine is installed at the surface of any mine in a building or enclosed place, adequate provision shall be made by means of an airtight pipe or flue to prevent the escape of the fumes or gases from the engine until conveyed beyond the building or place into the outside air.

“165v. Regulations to be posted—A copy of regulations 165A to 165v of these regulations shall be posted in every service station and fuel room.”

P. J. BROOKS,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.

Regulation 2 amends regulation 76 of the principal regulations by permitting an Inspector to approve the driving of a place up to 18 ft in width where continuous-miner type machines are in use.

Regulation 3 inserts new regulations 165A to 165v relating to the use of internal combustion engines in coal mines.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 29 March 1972.

These regulations are administered in the Mines Department.