THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE 27TH SEPTEMBER, 2001
LEGAL SUPPLEMENT — B

GUYANA No. 5 of 2001

REGULATIONS

MADE UNDER

ELECTRICITY SECTOR REFORM ACT 1999

(Act No. 11 of 1999)

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

REGULATION

IN THE EXERCISE OF THE POWERS CONFERRED UPON ME BY SECTION 69 OF THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR REFORM ACT 1999 (Act 11 of 1999)

I HEREBY MAKE THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS:

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Wiring Standards for Residential Consumers' Interface Regulations 2001 and shall come into effect on October 1, 2001.

Interpretation.

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires: -

(a) "conductor" means electric line, wire, cable or other means used for the purpose of conveying, transmitting, or distributing electric energy, which is covered with approved insulating covering;

(b) "consumer" means any owner or occupier of premises with requirements not exceeding 60 amperes per phase to which the supplier has been requested to supply electricity for domestic, residential or commercial use;

(c) "consumer's interface" means the point within the meter box where the conductors leading from the consumer's main isolator switch are connected with the supplier's meter or metering equipment;

(d) "electric energy" means electricity, electric current or any like property;

(e) "electric inspector" means the Government Electric Inspector, his officers or duly appointed representatives;

(f) "point of supply" means the point determined as the consumer's interface;

(g) "service line" means the conductor or cable, which extends from the secondary voltage pole to the point of supply on the consumer's premises through which electric energy is provided by the supplier to the consumer;

(h) "supplier" means the Guyana Power & Light, Inc.

PART II

REGULATIONS AS TO WIRING FOR CONSUMERS' INTERFACE

Distribution o electric energy.

3. Electric energy will be supplied to the consumer by way of service line feeding from the supplier's secondary pole to the point of supply in a meter box on the customer's premises, provided by the supplier.

Location of mete box, height fro ground.

4. The meter box is to be located to the front of the consumer's premises so as to be clearly visible from the road or public way. A meter box shall not be installed at a height less than 1.2 metres from the bottom of the meter box to the ground level and more than 1.8 metres from the top of the meter box to the ground level.

Construction of meter box.

5. Every meter box shall be constructed of aluminium, fibreglass or other suitable weather resistant material and shall be so designed as to permit free and unobstructed reading of the meter by authorised officers of the supplier and the consumer. All meter boxes shall be secured with one or more security seals placed by the supplier.

Connection to consumer's main isolator switch.

6. Every consumer shall be required to install at his expense, conductors from his own main isolator switch to the point of supply located in the meter box.

Minimum siz conductor.

7. The length of the conductor from the consumer's main isolator switch to the point of supply shall be rated to accommodate the electrical load but shall not be less than 3-core 10 square millimetre copper conductor of PVC insulation. A single 10 square millimetre copper conductor coloured in yellow and green with PVC insulation must be provided from the earthing busbar on the consumer's fuseboard to the meter box for connection by the supplier. A 4-core conductor with similar features will be acceptable in place of the 3-core and single core 10 square millimeter copper PVC conductors.

Responsibility of supplier.

8. The supplier shall maintain all conductors and other facilities provided by such supplier in a safe condition and in all respects fit for supplying electric energy.

Maintenance o consumer's electrical installation.

9. All of the electrical installation, including conductors leading from the meter to the consumer's main isolator switch must be supplied and maintained by the consumer at all times in such manner as will ensure that such installations are mechanically and electrically safe.

Protection of conductors.

10. (1) All conductors within 2.4 metres of ground level must be mechanically protected by either integral steel wire armouring, concentric shielding or with PVC trunking or conduit.

(2) Conductors provided and installed by the supplier must be protected by square PVC trunking of minimum 45 millimetres x 45 millimetres or in round PVC trunking 40 millimetres in diameter, to be supplied by the supplier.

(3) The consumer's conductors between the meter box and the main isolator switch must be protected in a manner similar to that described in paragraph (2). The consumer's main earthing conductor, where it is a separate conductor, must be enclosed in round PVC trunking 20 millimetres in diameter. Such trunking to be supplied by the consumer.

(4) Adequate precautions shall be taken by the consumer to ensure that no accumulation of water shall take place in any part of the PVC trunking or conduit and that no part is damaged, or if damaged, such PVC trunking or conduit is immediately replaced:

Provided that such trunking would not necessary if the conductor used is armoured or shielded.

Location of Consumer's main isolator switch.

11. The consumer's main isolator switch may be located on the inside or on the outside of the consumer's premises. Where the consumer's main isolator switch is located on the outside of the premises it must be protected in a waterproof enclosure, so as to prevent any ingress of moisture.

Safe keeping of supplier's facilities.

12. The consumer shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the meter, meter box and conductors installed by the supplier on his premises for the supply of electric energy. The consumer shall not interfere with or permit any person, other than a duly authorised officer of the supplier to interfere with the facilities.

Liability fo damage t supplier's facilities

13. The consumer shall be responsible for any damage to or loss or destruction of the supplier's installation on the premises caused otherwise than by *force majeure* or by any act within the control of the supplier, and the consumer shall pay to the supplier the cost of replacing any facility or making good such damage or loss.

PART III

POWER TO ENFORCE REGULATIONS

Connection to consumer's premises not to be made.

14. If the supplier is reasonably satisfied that the electrical installation for which the consumer is responsible is not installed in compliance with these Regulations, the supplier shall not make the connection to supply the consumer with electric energy; and where the supplier refuses to make such connection; the supplier shall serve upon the consumer a notice stating the reasons for so refusing.

Inspection by electric inspector.

15. If any consumer is dissatisfied with the action taken by the supplier under regulation 14, the consumer may on application and on payment of any prescribed fee, require the electric inspector to inspect the consumer's installation and make a determination on the matter.

Made this 21st day of September, 2001.

Samuel A. Hinds
Prime Minister and Minister responsible for the Electricity Sector