

Government Notice No. 141 of 2022

THE ELECTRICITY ACT 2005

Regulations made by the Minister, after consultation with the Utility Regulatory Authority, under section 44 of the Electricity Act 2005

1. These regulations may be cited as the Electricity (Safety, Quality and Continuity) Regulations 2022.

2. In these regulations –

“Act” means the Electricity Act 2005;

“Authority” has the same meaning as in the Act;

“building and land use permit” has the meaning as in the Local Government Act;

“BS 7671:2018” means the British standard for performing safe electrical installations or any latest version;

“cable” means a conductor which is electrically insulated;

“circuit” means an assembly of electrical equipment supplied from the same origin and protected by the same protective device;

“conductor” means a wire, metallic bar, rod or plate, which is not insulated, arranged to be electrically connected to a network or earth;

“customer” has the same meaning as in the Act;

“customer’s installation” means the electric conductors or cables situated upon the customer’s side of the supply terminals together with any equipment permanently connected or intended to be permanently connected thereto on that side;

“danger” includes danger to health, life or limb, from electric shock, burn, injury or mechanical movement to persons, livestock or domestic animals, or from fire or explosion, resulting from the generation, transmission, distribution or use of energy;

“distributing main” means a low voltage electric conductor which connects a distribution licensee’s source of voltage to –

- (a) one or more service conductors; or
- (b) directly to a single customer’s installation;

“distribution code” means such technical or operational codes, published by the Authority, relating to distribution and required by a distribution licensee to be implemented and maintained in accordance with the distribution licence issued by the Authority;

“distribution licensee” means a person who is granted a distribution licence under the Act;

“earth” means the general mass of the earth;

“earth electrode” means a conductor or group of conductors in intimate contact with, and providing a connection with earth;

“electrical installation” means an assembly of associated electrical equipment with coordinated characteristics which fulfils a specific purpose;

“energy” means electrical energy;

“equipment” includes plant, meters, conductors, devices, supports, appliances and associated items used, or intended to be used, for the purpose of generating, transmitting or distributing energy, or for using or measuring energy;

“extraneous conductive part” means a conductive part liable to introduce an electric potential, but not forming part of an electrical installation;

“final circuit” means a circuit connected directly to equipment using electricity, a socket outlet or other outlet point for the connection of such equipment;

“generation code” means such technical and operational codes as may be published by the Authority, and required by a generation licensee to be implemented and maintained in accordance with the generation licence issued by the Authority;

“generation licensee” means a person who is granted a generation licence under the Act;

“high voltage” means a nominal voltage exceeding 33,000 volts;

“insulation” means a non-conducting material enclosing or surrounding an equipment or any part thereof and of such quality and thickness as to withstand the operating voltage to which the equipment is subjected to;

“insulator” means a device which supports a live conductor;

“insulated” has the same meaning as insulation;

“licensee” has the same meaning as in the Act;

“live” means electrically charged;

“low voltage” has the same meaning as in the Act;

“mains” means the main switchboard of a building;

“Mauritius Standards Bureau” means the Mauritius Standards Bureau established under the Mauritius Standards Bureau Act;

“medium voltage” means a nominal voltage exceeding 1,000 volts and not exceeding 33,000 volts;

“metalwork” –

- (a) means a metallic structure; but
- (b) does not include any electric conductor;

“MS 63” means the standard requirements for electrical installations specified by the Mauritius Standard Bureau or such latest version as may be available;

“network” means an electrical system supplied by one or more sources of voltage and comprising all the conductors and other equipment used to conduct electricity for the purpose of conveying energy from the source or sources of voltage to one or more customer’s installations, street lighting fixtures, or other networks;

“neutral conductor” means a conductor which is, or is intended to be, connected to the neutral point of an electrical system for the purpose of supplying electricity;

“overhead conductor” means any electric conductor which is placed above ground and in the open air;

“performance standards” means the standards and codes in respect of the quality, reliability, efficiency and economy of electricity service supplied by a licensee;

“phase conductor” –

- (a) means a conductor that is used to carry energy; but
- (b) does not include a neutral conductor or protective conductor used for the purpose of earthing;

“protective conductor” means a conductor that –

- (a) is used for protection against electric shock; and

-
- (b) connects the exposed conductive parts of equipment with the earth;

“relevant person” means –

- (a) a licensee;
- (b) a person exempted under section 3 of the Act to obtain a licence;

“requirements for low voltage electrical installations” means either MS 63 or BS 7671:2018;

“residual current” means leakage of electrical current in a circuit flowing to earth or to any extraneous conductive part;

“residual current device” means a mechanical switching device, or an association of devices, intended to cause the opening of the contacts when the residual current attains a given value under specified conditions;

“service conductor” means an electric conductor which connects a supply terminal to a distributing main;

“street lighting fixture” means a permanent fixture that –

- (a) is, or is intended to be, connected to a supply; and
- (b) is in, on, or is associated with a street or motorway;

“substation” means a group of equipment accommodated in an enclosed compound consisting of devices such as transformers, circuit breakers, switches and protective devices used to transform voltages and perform electrical control of high voltage and medium voltage systems;

“supply” means the supply of electricity to any premises, including the sale of electricity;

“supply neutral conductor” –

- (a) means the neutral conductor of a low voltage network which is, or is intended to be, connected with earth; but
- (b) does not include any part of the neutral conductor on the customer’s side of the supply terminals;

“supply terminal” means the ends of the electric conductors or cables where the supply is delivered to a customer’s installation;

“support” –

- (a) means any structure, pole or other device, in, on, by or from, which any electric conductor is or may be supported or suspended; and
- (b) includes stays and struts; but
- (c) does not include insulators or their fittings or any building;

“switching device” includes any device which can either make or break a current, or both;

“system operation” means the control over the operation of generating stations, transmission lines and distribution lines within each control area designated in the licence issued by the Authority;

“system operation code” means such technical or operational codes published by the Authority relating to system operation and required by a system operation licensee to be implemented and maintained in terms of the system operation licence issued by the Authority;

“transmission code” means such technical or operational codes as the Authority may publish, in respect of the transmission and required by a transmission licensee to be implemented and maintained in accordance with the transmission licence issued by the Authority;

“transmission licensee” means a person who is granted a transmission licence;

“underground cable” means any cable designed to be placed below ground.

3. (1) Any requirement in these regulations for goods or materials to comply with a specified standard shall be in accordance with the requirements for low voltage electrical installations or an equivalent standard published by the Mauritius Standards Bureau, or the International Electro-technical Commission, insofar as the specified standard enables electricity safety, quality or continuity considerations to be met in an equivalent manner.

(2) A reference in these regulations, in respect of the network, overhead conductor, substation or equipment of a relevant person shall be a reference to a network, an overhead conductor, a substation or an equipment, as the case may be, owned or operated by him.

4. (1) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), insofar as these regulations apply to a relevant person, they shall also apply to any agent, contractor or subcontractor on whose behalf the agent, contractor or the subcontractor, as the case may be, is acting in relation to a matter under these regulations.

(2) Regulations 7, 18, 30, 32, 33 and 36 shall not apply to any agent, contractor or subcontractor.

5. (1) a relevant person shall, for the purpose of generation, transmission, distribution and supply –

- (a) take such reasonable steps as may be required to protect the public and its personnel from any danger that may arise from the generation, transmission, distribution, supply and use of energy from any network;

- (b) take such reasonable steps as may be required to eliminate or reduce the risks of –
 - (i) personal injury;
 - (ii) damage to property; or
 - (iii) interference with the use of energy resulting from the generation, transmission, distribution and supply; and
 - (c) comply with such safety standards as may be required, including but not limited to the standards set out in –
 - (i) the Generation Code, the Distribution Code, the Transmission Code, the System Operation Code;
 - (ii) the associated technical and safety standards; and
 - (iii) the Occupational Safety and Health Act.
- 6. (1)** A relevant person shall ensure that his equipment is –
- (a) sufficient for the purpose of which it is used and the circumstances in which it is used; and
 - (b) so constructed, installed, protected, both electrically and mechanically, identified, used and maintained as to prevent danger, interference with or interruption of supply, as far as is reasonably practicable.
- (2)** A relevant person shall –
- (a) in respect of every overhead conductor or part thereof, and every substation, assess the foreseeable risk of danger from interference, vandalism or unauthorised

access, having regard to the nature of the equipment and use of the surrounding land; and

- (b) take such measures as may be required in accordance with the nature of risk to which it gives rise, so as to safeguard the equipment.

(3) A relevant person shall take such reasonable steps as may be required to ensure that the public is made aware of danger that may arise from activities carried out in proximity of electrical networks and to indicate the means by which danger may be avoided.

(4) A relevant person shall, as far as is reasonably practicable, take such precautions as may be required to avoid danger resulting from the influx of water, or any noxious or explosive liquid or gas, into any enclosed space, which may arise from the installation or operation of his equipment.

(5) A relevant person shall ensure that the quality of all materials used for electrical equipment and electrical networks, except where otherwise specified in these regulations, are in accordance with the relevant performance standards.

(6) A relevant person shall ensure that all materials and structures to house or support electrical equipment, except where otherwise specified in these regulations, are in accordance with the standards specified in the performance standards.

7. A relevant person shall, in order to ensure compliance with these regulations –

- (a) disclose such information to each other as may reasonably be required; and
- (b) cooperate with each other in so far as is necessary.

8. A relevant person shall, as far as is reasonably practicable, inspect his network with sufficient frequency so that he is aware of what action he needs to take so as to ensure compliance with these regulations, the relevant performance standards, and, in the case of his substations and overhead conductors, he shall maintain for a period of not less than 5 years a record of such inspections, including any recommendations arising therefrom.

9. (1) A relevant person shall be responsible for the application of such protective devices to his network, as far as is reasonably practicable, to avoid any over current, phase and earth fault current from –

- (a) flowing in any part of his network; and
- (b) causing injury to any person or damage to property.

(2) (a) The final circuit of an electrical installation in a building shall be fitted with a residual current device.

(b) The residual current device under subparagraph (a) shall have –

- (i) an operating electrical current of not more than 30 milliamperes; and
- (ii) an operating time of not more than 40 milliseconds at 150 milliamperes.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), a residual current device of a higher rating than the rating specified in that paragraph may be installed at the mains, provided that the final circuit of the electrical installation is protected by a residual current device of ratings specified in the paragraph.

10. (1) A relevant person shall, in the design, construction, maintenance or operation of his networks, take all reasonable precautions to ensure continuity of the supply neutral conductor.

(2) A relevant person shall not introduce any protective device in any supply neutral conductor.

11. (1) A relevant person shall, as far as is reasonably practicable, ensure that his network is not disconnected from earth in the event of any foreseeable current due to a fault.

(2) A relevant person shall, in respect of any high voltage or medium voltage network which he owns or operates, ensure that –

(a) the network is connected with earth at, or as near as is reasonably practicable to the source of voltage; and

(b) the earth electrodes are designed, installed and used in accordance with the associated technical and safety standards so as to avoid danger.

(3) A relevant person shall, in respect of any low voltage network which he owns or operates, ensure that –

(a) every supply neutral conductor is connected to earth, or as near as is reasonably practicable at the source of voltage; and

(b) no impedance is inserted in any connection with earth of a low voltage network except for the operation of switching devices or of instruments or equipment for control, telemetry or metering.

(4) No customer shall connect the protective conductor in his installation to the supply neutral conductor.

(5) Paragraphs (1) to (3) shall not apply to any electric conductor and any electric equipment which is situated within a generating station if adequate alternative arrangements are in place to avoid danger.

12. Without prejudice to any other requirement in respect of earthing, a relevant person shall ensure that any metalwork enclosing or supporting his equipment or which is otherwise associated with his equipment, and which is not intended to serve as a phase conductor, is connected with earth.

13. A relevant person shall protect his network against damage from lightning.

14. A relevant person shall, in respect of every substation, which he owns or operates –

- (a) enclose, where it may be so required to avoid, as far as is reasonably practicable, danger or unauthorised access;
- (b) enclose any part of the substation, which is open to the air and contains live equipment which is not encased, with a fence or wall of a height of not less than 2 metres, to avoid, as far as is reasonably practicable, danger or unauthorised access;
- (c) ensure that, as far as is reasonably practicable, there are, at all times, displayed –
 - (i) sufficient safety signs of such sizes as are necessary to give due warning of such danger, as is reasonably foreseeable, and in such positions as may be required;
 - (ii) a notice which gives the location or identification of the substation and the name of each relevant person who owns or operates the substation equipment

making up the substation is displayed in a conspicuous place; and

(iii) such other signs of such sizes and in such positions, as are necessary, to give due warning of danger having regard to the siting of, the nature of and the measures taken to ensure the security of the substation equipment;

(d) take such reasonable precautions as may be required to minimise the risk of fire associated with the equipment; and

(e) ensure that each substation is adequately lighted to avoid danger.

15. (1) A relevant person may use any underground cable and associated equipment in accordance with regulations 16 and 17.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any underground cable and associated equipment in generating stations or substations.

16. All underground cables and associated accessories shall be provided with –

(a) mechanical protection by any such means that would ensure the safe electrical operation of the cables; and

(b) a continuous metallic screen connected with earth.

17. (1) Every underground cable shall be kept at such depth or be protected so as to avoid, as far as is reasonably practicable, any damage or danger by reason of such uses of the land which can be reasonably expected.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an underground cable shall be protected, marked or otherwise indicated so as to ensure, as

far as is reasonably practicable, that any person excavating the land above the cable will be given sufficient warning of its presence.

(3) The protection, marking or indication under paragraph (2) shall be made in accordance with the provisions of such associated technical and safety standards as may be applicable.

(4) In the absence of the provisions under paragraph (3), the protection, marking or indication shall be made by –

- (a) placing the cable in a pressure type pipe or duct;
- (b) overlaying the cable at a suitable distance with protective tiles or warning tape;
- (c) providing such other protective or warning device, mark or indication; or
- (d) a suitable combination of the above measures.

18. (1) This regulation shall apply in respect of any underground network owned or operated by a relevant person.

(2) A relevant person shall take such reasonable steps as are necessary to maintain and keep up to date the records indicating the location at which the cables that form part of his network, are laid.

(3) A relevant person shall keep a copy of the whole or relevant part of any map prepared under paragraph (2) for inspection by the Authority and shall, on request, provide a copy of such map to the Authority.

(4) Any map prepared for the purpose of paragraph (2) may be kept by electronic means provided that such map can be reproduced in printed form.

(5) Nothing in this regulation shall require the inclusion, on a map prepared or kept for the purpose of paragraph (2), of information relating to the position and depth below surface level of network or parts thereof which were placed below ground before the date of issuance of a licence or an exemption under the Act, as may be the case, where it would not be reasonably practicable to obtain such information.

19. (1) Where a foundation work for the construction of any building or structure is undertaken near an underground cable, such foundation work shall be undertaken from not less than the distance specified in the Fourth Schedule.

(2) (a) Any person who intends to erect a building or structure shall –

- (i) give notice of his intention to erect such building or structure in writing to the Municipal City Council, Municipal Town Council or District Council; and
- (ii) obtain a Building and Land Use Permit before erecting such building or structure.

(b) The Municipal City Council, Municipal Town Council or District Council, as the case may be, shall not issue a Building and Land Use Permit where the distance from the building or structure to be erected to any part of the underground cable is less than the limits specified in Part I of the Fourth Schedule.

(3) The minimum safety distances between underground cables and other underground services shall be as specified in Part II of the Fourth Schedule.

(4) No building or structure shall be constructed within the servitude of any underground cable.

20. A relevant person shall ensure that overhead conductors, other than overhead conductors in generating stations or substations, comply with these regulations and such other design standards as may be specified in the associated safety and technical standards.

21. (1) A relevant person shall ensure that the height above ground of any overhead conductor or cable, at the maximum likely temperature of that conductor or cable, shall not be less than that specified in paragraph (2).

(2) Where an overhead conductor or cable is over or along a road or over any other location accessible or not accessible to vehicular traffic, the height above ground of such overhead conductor or cable shall not be less than that specified in the First Schedule.

(3) Where an overhead conductor or cable, which connects equipment mounted on a support, is not over or along a road accessible to vehicular traffic, the height above ground of such conductor or cable shall be not less than 4.6 metres.

(4) Where an overhead conductor or cable is over a road accessible to vehicular traffic, the height above ground of such conductor or cable which is attached to a support, shall not be less than that specified in the First Schedule.

(5) Where an overhead conductor crosses a navigable waterway, such heights shall be maintained so as to avoid any danger.

22. (1) Where any building or structure is constructed near an overhead conductor, the distance from such building or structure to any part of the overhead conductor shall not be less than the limits specified in the Second Schedule.

(2) (a) Any person who intends to erect a building or structure shall give notice of his intention to erect that building or structure in

writing to the Municipal City Council, Municipal Town Council or District Council and obtain a Building and Land Use Permit before erecting such building or structure.

(b) The Municipal City Council, Municipal Town Council or District Council, as the case may be, shall not issue a Building and Land Use Permit where the distance from the building or structure to be erected to any part of the overhead conductor is less than the limits specified in the Second Schedule.

(3) The distance from any tree to any overhead conductor shall not be less than that specified in the Third Schedule.

(4) No overhead conductor shall be so close to any building, tree or structure as to cause danger.

(5) No building or structure shall be constructed within the servitude of any overhead conductor.

23. (1) Every support which carries a high voltage overhead conductor shall, if the circumstances reasonably require, be fitted with devices to avoid, as far as is reasonably practicable, any unauthorised person from reaching a position at which any such line would be a source of danger.

(2) Every support which carries a high voltage overhead conductor shall, if the circumstances reasonably require, have attached to it sufficient safety signs of such size and be placed in such positions as are necessary to give due warning of such danger as is reasonably foreseeable in the circumstances.

(3) Where conductors are run down supports for the purpose of connection with earth, they shall be protected so as to avoid danger within 3 metres from the ground.

24. (1) Every stay wire which forms part of, or is attached to, any support which carries an overhead conductor incorporating bare phase conductors shall be fitted with insulators.

(2) The insulators referred to in paragraph (1) shall be not less than 4.6 metres above the ground.

25. (1) The vertical electrical clearance of conductors of high voltage conductors crossing over energised traction conductor, under most adverse conditions of sag and swing shall not be less than 3.2 metres.

(2) The safety distance of conductors of high voltage conductors to any component of electric traction system, under most adverse conditions of sag and swing, shall not be less than 4.6 metres.

(3) (1) No mast shall be erected directly underneath any high voltage conductor.

(2) Any mast referred to in paragraph (1) shall be erected furthest from the line crossing and shall, as far as practicable, be at 90 degrees from each other.

26. Where a person is granted a licence or is exempted of a licence under sections 13(3) of the Act and operates a source of energy as a switched alternative to a transmission licensee's or a distribution licensee's network, he shall –

- (a) obtain an authorisation, in writing, from the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee who owns or operates the network; and

-
- (b) ensure that that source of energy cannot operate in parallel with that network,

provided that where the source of energy is part of the customer's installation, that installation complies with these regulations and all other design standards specified in the transmission code, distribution code and associated safety and technical standards, as the case may be.

27. (1) Notwithstanding regulation 28, no person shall install or operate a source of energy which may be connected to a transmission licensee's or a distribution licensee's network unless authorised by the Authority in accordance with a network expansion plan and the person –

- (a) has the necessary and appropriate equipment in accordance with the transmission code, distribution code and such associated safety and technical standards, as may be applicable to a relevant person to avoid, as far as is reasonably practicable, danger or interference with that network or with the supply to customers;
- (b) has the necessary and appropriate personnel and procedures to avoid, as far as is reasonably practicable, danger;
- (c) complies with the transmission code, distribution code and such associated safety and technical standards, as the case may be, where the source of energy is part of the customer's installation; and
- (d) obtain an authorisation, in writing, from the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee who owns or operates the network.

(2) Paragraph (1)(b) shall not apply to a person who installs or operates a source of energy which may be connected in parallel with a transmission licensee's or a distribution licensee's network and is exempted under section 3(3) of the Act, provided that –

- (a) he complies with paragraph (1)(a) and (c);
- (b) the source of energy is configured to disconnect itself electrically from the parallel connection when the transmission licensee's or the distribution licensee's equipment disconnects the supply to the person's installation; and
- (c) the person installing the source of energy ensures that the transmission licensee's or the distribution licensee's written authorisation is obtained to use a source of energy in parallel with the network before installing and at the time of commissioning the source.

28. (1) The transmission licensee and the distribution licensee shall, as far as is reasonably practicable, ensure that their networks are –

- (a) so arranged; and
- (b) so equipped, where necessary, with fuses or automatic switching devices, appropriately located and configured,

so as to restrict the number of customers affected by any fault in their respective network.

(2) Subject to regulation 34, the transmission licensee and the distribution licensee shall, at all times, take all reasonable steps to minimise interruptions of supply resulting from their own acts.

29. (1) No person shall make or alter a connection from the transmission licensee's or the distribution licensee's network to a Customer's Installation, a street lighting fixture or to another distribution licensee's network without the consent of the transmission licensee and the distribution licensee first referred to in this regulation.

(2) The transmission licensee or the distribution licensee shall not unreasonably withhold his consent to making or altering of the connection referred to in paragraph (1), unless there exist reasonable grounds for believing that –

- (a) the customer's installation, street lighting fixture or other distribution licensee's network fails to comply with these regulations;
- (b) the connection itself will not be so constructed, installed, protected and used or arranged for use, so as to avoid, as far as is reasonably practicable, danger or interruption of supply; or
- (c) the connection will not comply with the transmission code, distribution code and associated safety and technical standards, as applicable to each of the relevant person.

(3) Any dispute between a person to whom paragraph (1) refers and the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee, arising from delay in giving or refusing to give the consent required by paragraph (1) in accordance with paragraph (2), which cannot be resolved between them may be referred by either of them to the Authority.

30. (1) Before commencing supply to any customer, including where a change to the existing supply requirement has been requested

by a customer, the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee shall by notification in writing declare to the customer –

- (a) the type of voltage, whether direct or alternating, to be supplied;
- (b) in the case of alternating voltage, the number of phases and also the frequency of supply;
- (c) the nominal voltage at the supply terminals.

(2) (a) The frequency declared pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be 50 hertz.

(b) The voltage declared at the supply terminals in respect of a low voltage supply shall be –

- (i) 230 volts between the phase conductor and the Neutral conductor; or
- (ii) 400 volts between the phases.

(3) For the purpose of this regulation, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the persons referred to therein, the permitted variations, under normal conditions, shall be –

- (a) a variation not exceeding 1.5 per cent above or below the declared frequency;
- (b) in the case of a low voltage supply, a variation not exceeding 6 per cent above or below the declared voltage at the declared frequency;
- (c) in the case of a medium voltage supply, a variation not exceeding 6 per cent above or below the declared voltage at the declared frequency; and

- (d) in the case of a high voltage supply, a variation not exceeding 10 per cent above or 6 per cent below the declared voltage at the declared frequency.

(4) The transmission licensee and the distribution licensee shall ensure that, save in exceptional circumstances, the characteristics of the supply to a customer's installation connected to his network comply with the declarations made under paragraph (1).

31. (1) The transmission licensee or the distribution licensee shall ensure that each item of his equipment which is on a customer or a generation licensee premises, but which is not under the control of the customer or the generation licensee, whether forming part of the customer's or the generation licensee's installation or not, is –

- (a) suitable for its purpose;
- (b) installed and, as far as is reasonably practicable, maintained so as to avoid danger; and
- (c) protected by a suitable protective device.

(2) Where each item of his equipment which is on a customer's premises but which is not under the control of the customer, a transmission licensee or a distribution licensee, as the case may be, shall mark permanently, so as to clearly identify the polarity of each of them, the separate conductors which are connected to supply terminals and such markings shall be made at a point which is as close as is practicable to the supply terminals in question.

(3) Unless the transmission licensee and the distribution licensee can reasonably conclude that it is inappropriate for reasons of safety, any such licensee shall, when providing a new connection at low voltage, make available the neutral conductor of his network for connection to the neutral conductor of the customer's installation.

32. (1) Where –

- (a) a connection to a transmission licensee's or a distribution licensee's network has been made, or is proposed to be made; and
- (b) the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee is not satisfied that the customer's installation, including street lighting fixtures which is or would be connected to his network, is or would be so constructed, installed, protected and used or arranged for use so as to avoid, as far as is reasonably practicable, danger or interference with their network, or with the supply to any customer's installation including street lighting fixtures,

the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee may issue a notice in writing to the customer, including the owner of the street lighting fixtures, as the case may be, requiring remedial works to be carried out within such reasonable period as may be specified in the notice.

(2) (a) Where the remedial works specified in the notice by the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee are not carried out within the delay specified in the notice, the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee may disconnect or refuse to connect, as the case may be, supply to the customer's installation, including street lighting fixtures.

(b) Where the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee disconnects or refuses to connect supply to the customer's installation including street lighting fixtures, he shall, by further notice in writing addressed to the customer including the owner of

the street lighting fixtures, set out the reasons for the disconnection or refusal to connect.

(3) (a) A transmission licensee or a distribution licensee may disconnect supply to a customer's installation, including street lighting fixtures without giving notice as required by paragraph (1) if such disconnection can be justified on grounds of safety.

(b) The transmission licensee or the distribution licensee shall, after the disconnection, serve as soon as is reasonably practicable, a notice in writing addressed to the customer, including the owner of the street lighting fixtures –

- (i) giving reasons for the disconnection under subparagraph (a); and
- (ii) where applicable, provide to the customer, including the owner of the street lighting fixtures details of such remedial measures that must be undertaken.

(4) The transmission licensee or the distribution licensee shall –

- (a) where remedial measures have been undertaken by the customer, including the owner of the street lighting fixtures, to the satisfaction of the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee, connect or restore supply, as the case may be; or
- (b) where no remedial measures are required, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the grounds for disconnection have ceased to apply, connect or restore supply, as the case may be.

(5) Any dispute between the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee and the customer, including the owner of

the street lighting fixtures, over the disconnection of or refusal to connect the customer's installation including street lighting fixtures, which cannot be resolved between them, may be referred by any of them to the Authority.

33. A transmission licensee or a distribution licensee shall, in respect of any existing or proposed customer's installation, which is connected, or is to be connected to his network, provide to any person who shows a reasonable cause for requiring the information, a written statement of –

- (a) the maximum prospective short circuit current at the supply terminals;
- (b) for low voltage connections, the maximum earth loop impedance of the earth fault path outside the installation;
- (c) the type and rating of the transmission licensee's or distribution licensee's protective device nearest to the supply terminals;
- (d) the type of earthing system applicable to the connection in accordance with regulation 11; and
- (e) the information specified in regulation 30(1), which apply, or will apply, to that installation.

34. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a transmission licensee or a distribution licensee may discontinue supply for the purpose of testing or carrying out his activities.

(2) A transmission licensee or a distribution licensee may discontinue supply pursuant to paragraph (1) only –

- (a) for such period as may be necessary; and

- (b) subject to paragraph (3), if at least 2 days' notice is given by issuing a communique to the customers.

(3) A transmission licensee or a distribution licensee may discontinue supply even if the notice required by paragraph (2)(b) has not been received by the customer if –

- (a) the discontinuation is agreed between the customer and the transmission licensee or distribution licensee;
- (b) the transmission licensee or distribution licensee considers it necessary to discontinue supply to the customer in order to avoid danger or to undertake essential emergency repairs;
- (c) if there is an urgent need to discontinue supply relating to the safe or proper operation of the network; or
- (d) the notice is not received by the customer due to circumstances not within the control of the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee.

35. (1) A relevant person, whose equipment is subject to inspection, test or examination by an inspector appointed by the Authority for the purpose of ascertaining whether a breach of these regulations may have occurred, shall provide any reasonable assistance and facilities that the inspector may require.

(2) A relevant person shall provide such information to the inspector as may be required for the purpose of performing the inspector's functions under this regulation.

36. (1) Notwithstanding any other enactments, notice shall be given to the Authority in accordance with this regulation by –

- (a) the generation licensee, the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee in respect of any event

specified in paragraph (2)(b) where the event involves a customer's installation which is connected to the transmission licensee's or the distribution licensee's network; and

- (b) any other relevant person in respect of any other event specified in paragraph (2) involving a network or equipment, which is in the ownership of, under the control of, or used by, the relevant person, as the case may be.
- (2) The event referred to in paragraph (1) shall be –
- (a) any event attributable in whole or in part to the generating, transforming, controlling or carrying of energy up to and including the supply terminals, which has given rise to –
 - (i) the death of any person;
 - (ii) an injury, including any electric shock, to any person;
 - (iii) any fire; or
 - (iv) any explosion and implosion;
 - (b) any event attributable, in whole or in part, to the presence of electricity on the customer's side of the supply terminals resulting in the death of any person, if the event becomes known to either the transmission licensee or the distribution licensee.
- (3) In respect of any event specified in paragraph (2)(a) –
- (a) the requirement to give notice in accordance with paragraph (4), as far as practicable, applies in addition

to the requirement to give notice in accordance with paragraph (5) unless the notice given satisfies the requirements of both paragraphs; and

- (b) the requirement to give notice in accordance with paragraphs (4) and (5) applies in addition to the requirement to give notice in accordance with paragraph (6).

(4) In respect of any event specified in paragraph (2)(a) causing death or serious injury to any person, notice of the event shall be given to the Authority by telephone or other immediate means of communication immediately after the event becomes known to the relevant person, as the case may be.

(5) In respect of any event specified in paragraph (2)(a) or (b), notice containing the relevant particulars shall, as soon as possible after the event becomes known to the relevant person be given to the Authority in writing by the quickest practicable means.

(6) In respect of any event notifiable under paragraph (2)(a), notice shall be given to the Authority as soon as the event becomes known to the relevant person, which shall be in the form set out in the Fifth Schedule.

(7) The notices referred to in paragraphs (5) and (6) shall, where the giver of the notice is unable to provide full particulars, contain the relevant particulars as are available to the giver at the time of giving it, and the remaining particulars shall be supplied to the Authority in writing by the quickest practicable means immediately after they have become known.

(8) The Authority may require a relevant person to submit further information to the Authority relating to any matter which the relevant person has notified the Authority under regulation 36.

(9) In this regulation –

“event” means any event of the kind specified irrespective of whether it is accidental;

“relevant particulars” means, in respect of an event specified in paragraph (2)(a) or (b), the particulars specified in the forms set out in the Fifth Schedule and the Sixth Schedule, respectively; and

“serious injury” means any injury which results in the person being admitted into a medical institution as an inpatient.

37. (1) The Authority may, from time to time or pursuant to a request made by a relevant person, by General Notice published in the Gazette, exempt that relevant person or any person from the requirement to comply with these regulations or any part thereof for such period as may be set out in the said General Notice, having regard to the manner in which or the quantity of electricity likely to be generated or distributed by such person.

(2) The request referred to in paragraph (1) shall –

(a) be made in writing; and

(b) state the full extent of the reasons for the exemption sought.

38. (1) Paragraphs (2) to (5) shall apply where the Authority is satisfied that –

(a) any network or part thereof, or any equipment which is constructed, placed, erected, maintained, or used otherwise than in accordance with these regulations;

- (b) any part of a customer's installation which is not enclosed in a building; or
- (c) any network or part thereof, any part of a customer's installation which is not enclosed in a building or any equipment which is not in accordance with any relevant exemption or these regulations when the notice referred to in paragraph (2) is served,

is liable to become –

- (i) a source of danger to others;
- (ii) an interference with supply to others; or
- (iii) a cause of interruption of supply to others.

(2) The Authority may serve notice on the relevant person or customer, requiring that the network, the customer's installation, the equipment or any part thereof specified in the notice –

- (a) shall not be used;
- (b) shall be disconnected;
- (c) shall be removed; or
- (d) shall only be used subject to compliance with such conditions, improvements or modifications as the notice shall specify,

within the delay specified in the notice and the person on whom the notice has been served shall comply with the provisions of the notice.

(3) Where a notice referred to in paragraph (2) is served, that notice shall remain valid until such time as the network, the

customer's installation, the equipment or any part thereof specified in the notice complies with these regulations or until the Authority withdraws the notice.

(4) Without prejudice to paragraph (3), a relevant person or a customer may, within 2 days from the date of the receipt of the notice specified in paragraph (3), request the Authority to be exempted fully or partially from the requirements of the notice, stating the reasons thereof.

(5) Where it is satisfied with the reasons set out under paragraph (4), the Authority shall approve the request.

39. A relevant person shall –

- (a) prepare a safety manual setting out such safety rules and precautions as may be applicable to his network; and
- (b) establish a safety management system at every location where there is an electrical interface between his network and those of its users and other relevant persons,

in accordance with the Generation Code, the Transmission Code, the Distribution Code and other relevant standards, as may be applicable to every relevant person.

40. (1) Any relevant person, including the agent, the contractor or the subcontractor of that relevant person, who fails to comply with any provision of these regulations shall commit an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 100,000 rupees.

(2) Any person who fails to comply with regulation 22(2), 26, 27 or 29(1) and any customer who fails to comply with regulation 11(4) or 38(2) shall commit an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 100,000 rupees.

- 41.** The following instruments are revoked –
- (a) the Electricity Act 1939;
 - (b) the Electricity Regulations 1939;
 - (c) the Electricity (Temporary Variation of Tariffs) (Cancellation) Order 1947;
 - (d) the Electricity (Tariff) (no. 2) (Amendment) Order 1950;
 - (e) the Electricity (Increase of Tariffs) Order 1955;
 - (f) the Electricity (Rodrigues) (Tariff) Order 1956;
 - (g) the Electricity (Unification of Domestic Tariffs) Order 1958;
 - (h) the Electricity (Unification of Commercial and Industrial Tariffs) Order 1958;
 - (i) the Electricity (Unification of Commercial and Industrial Tariffs) (Amendment) Order 1959;
 - (j) the Electricity (Maximum Tariffs) Order 1960; and
 - (k) the Electricity (Safety of Low-Voltage and Medium-Voltage Electrical Installations) Regulations 2004.
- 42.** These regulations shall come into operation on 10 June 2022.

Made by the Minister, after consultation with the Utility Regulatory Authority, on 10 June 2022.

FIRST SCHEDULE
[Regulation 21(2) and (4)]

**HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND OF OVERHEAD CONDUCTORS
AND CABLES**

| Nominal voltages | Over road (m) | Along road (m) | Over other locations accessible to vehicular traffic (m) | Over other locations inaccessible to vehicular traffic (m) |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Not exceeding 1,000 volts for service cable | 5.8 | 5.2 | 5.8 | 4.6 |
| Not exceeding 1,000 volts except service cable | 6.4 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 4.6 |
| E x c e e d i n g 1,000 volts but not exceeding 11,000 volts | 6.4 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 4.6 |
| E x c e e d i n g 11,000 volts but not exceeding 33,000 volts | 6.4 | 6.1 | 6.1 | 4.6 |
| E x c e e d i n g 33,000 volts but not exceeding 132,000 volts | 7.5 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 6 |

SECOND SCHEDULE
[Regulation 22(1) and (2)(b)]

**MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES
TO OVERHEAD CONDUCTORS**

| Nominal voltages | Clearance radius * (m) | Vertical clearance* (m) | Horizontal clearance*** (m) |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Not exceeding 1,000 volts (bare conductor) | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Not exceeding 1,000 volts (insulated) | | 2 | 0.5 |
| Exceeding 1,000 volts but not exceeding 11,000 Volts (bare) | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Exceeding 1,000 volts but not exceeding 11,000 Volts (insulated) | | 2 | 0.5 |
| Exceeding 11,000 volts but not exceeding 33,000 volts (bare) (Insulated) | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Exceeding 11,000 volts but not exceeding 33,000 Volts (insulated) | | 2 | 0.5 |
| Exceeding 33,000 volts but not exceeding 132,000 volts (pole 14m) | 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.6 |

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----|-----|------|
| Exceeding | 33,000 | | | |
| volts but not | | | | |
| exceeding | 132,000 | | | |
| volts (tower) | | 7.5 | 7.5 | 7.5 |
| | | | | **** |

Notes –

* *The clearance radius is the minimum distance between the nearest point of a building or structure with respect to the nearest conductor of an overhead conductor. The clearance radius is effective only when a building or structure is lower than the nearest conductor of an overhead conductor.*

** *The vertical clearance is the distance between the top of a building or structure and the nearest conductor of an overhead conductor crossing directly over it.*

*** *The horizontal clearance is the lateral distance between the building/structure and the nearest conductor of an overhead conductor when the building/structure is level or higher than the line.*

**** *The horizontal clearance is the lateral distance between a building or structure and the nearest conductor of a tower line. It becomes effective when a building or structure rises level or higher than the lowest conductor of the tower line. The distance is a variable as it depends on the position of the building/structure with respect to the span length of the tower line. Its determination is based under conditions of maximum conductor swing and therefore the value has to be calculated on a case to case basis.*

THIRD SCHEDULE

[Regulation 22(3)]

DISTANCE FROM TREES TO OVERHEAD CONDUCTORS**1. Low voltage overhead conductors**

| | Not surrounded by insulation (m) | Surrounded by insulation (m) |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Vertical distance | 2 | 0.5 |
| Horizontal distance* | 2 | 0.5 |

2. Medium voltage overhead conductors

| | Not surrounded by insulation (m) | Surrounded by insulation (m) |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Vertical distance | 2.5 | 1 |
| Horizontal distance* | 2.5 | 1 |

The distances specified in the table shall be further increased where the factors such as tree movement, tree re-growth, overhanging of, branches, conductor swing and falling of a tree/part of a tree, for different geophysical conditions so require.

* The horizontal distance is the lateral distance between a tree and the nearest conductor

3. High Voltage**66 kV**

(1) (a) No tree shall be grown within a distance of 11 metres from the nearest Overhead Conductor, unless the Licensee

determines that it will not compromise the safety of any person or property.

(b) Notwithstanding subparagraph (a), where the Licensee so authorises, no tree shall be grown within a distance of less than 7.5 metres from the nearest Overhead Conductor.

(2) Beyond 11 metres from the nearest Overhead Conductor, the height of the tree shall be at least 5 metres less than the distance to the tree from the nearest Overhead Conductor.

132 kV

(1) (a) No tree shall be grown within a distance of 13.5 metres from the nearest Overhead Conductor unless the Licensee determines that it will not compromise the safety of any person or property.

(b) Notwithstanding subparagraph (a), where the Licensee so authorises, no tree shall be grown within a minimum distance of less than 7.5 metres from the nearest Overhead Conductor.

(2) (a) Within 13.5 metres from the nearest Overhead Conductor, trees shall not be grown, unless the Licensee determines that it shall not compromise safety.

(b) Where the Licensee determines that trees may be grown under subparagraph (a), a minimum distance of 7.5 metres from the nearest Overhead Conductor shall be maintained.

(3) Beyond 13.5 metres from the nearest Overhead Conductor, the height of the tree shall be at least 5 metres less than the distance to the tree from the nearest Overhead Conductor.

FOURTH SCHEDULE

[Regulation 19(1), (2)(b) and (3)]

SAFETY DISTANCES FOR UNDERGROUND CABLES**PART I – FOUNDATION WORKS NEAR
UNDERGROUND CABLE**

1. (1) The minimum distance shall, in respect of any foundation works near to the Transmission Licensee's or the Distribution Licensee's existing underground cable, at all times be maintained as specified in table below.

(2) The approval of the Transmission Licensee or the Distribution Licensee shall be obtained prior to starting works.

| Voltage level | Minimum horizontal distance (mm) |
|----------------------|---|
| Up to 33 kV | 1,000 |
| Above 33 kV | 2,000 |

**PART II – DISTANCE BETWEEN UNDERGROUND CABLE
AND OTHER UNDERGROUND SERVICES**

2. The minimum distance shall, between the underground cable of a Transmission Licensee or a Distribution Licensee and the other services, as far as reasonably practicable, be as per the table below.

| Services | Minimum clearance (mm) | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| | Horizontal | Vertical |
| Clearance with respect to telecommunication cables or any other cables running in parallel or crossing | 500 | 200 |
| Clearance with respect to underground water or sewerage pipes | 500 | 500 |

FIFTH SCHEDULE

[Regulations 36(6) and 36(9)]

NOTIFICATION OF SPECIFIED EVENTS

PART I – FORM OF EVENTS

Part particulars relating to the person submitting the notice

Name of licensee

Organisation

Name and address of person submitting notice

Telephone no. Mobile no.

Email address

Correspondence to be addressed to

PART II – PARTICULARS OF EVENT

Date of submission

Event number

Site of event

Date and time of event

PART III – NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN EVENT

Person 1

Person 2

.....

.....

Name

Name

Voltage

Equipment at site of event overhead conductors, underground cables, distributing mains, or service conductors, or others, please specify –

Type of circuit protection

If overhead conductor, specify

Height above ground of electric conductor at point of contact, if any

Whether or not the electric conductor was surrounded by Insulation

In respect of events not involving overhead conductors –

- (a) whether the equipment was situated indoors or outdoors;
 - (b) where a substation is involved, a brief description of substation physical security equipment e.g. brick concrete building, steel galvanised steel doors, nature of fencing; whether any security fence was also the perimeter fence;
 - (c) where underground system is involved, specify type of installation and depth of cable;
6. Brief facts of the event, including, where known, the cause –
 7. (a) details of any action which has already been taken.
(b) details of any action which is intended to be, taken to avoid a recurrence of the event
 8. Details of witnesses, if any
 9. Any further particulars

I certify that to the best of my knowledge that the information given above is correct.

.....

Date

Name

.....

Status

Signature

SIXTH SCHEDULE

[Regulations 36(9)]

**PART I – PARTICULARS RELATING TO THE PERSON
SUBMITTING THE NOTICE**

Name of Licensee or organisation

Name and address of person submitting notice

Telephone number

Email address

Correspondence to be addressed to

PART II – PARTICULARS OF EVENT

Date of submission

Event number

Site of event

Date and time of event

**PART III – NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSONS
INVOLVED IN EVENT**

Person 1

Person 2

Full name of deceased

.....

Address

Nature of work

Status

Age

Sex

Cause of death,
if known

Fatal accident inquiry determination, if known –

.....
.....
.....
.....

**PART IV – EQUIPMENT INVOLVED AND
CAUSE OF FAULT**

Type and make

| Death due to fault involving | Yes/No | Death due to fault involving | Yes/No |
|---|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
|---|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|

Fixed wiring Misuse of equipment or appliance

Flexible lead Bare wires

Appliance lead Taped joints

Appliance Broken Neutral Conductor

Plug Exposed and Live plug pins

Socket outlet

Whether it was faulty

Whether the death was due to a fault involving

PART V – NETWORK AND CUSTOMER’S DETAILS

Voltage Type of Circuit protection

| | Yes/No | Remarks |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| RCD has been installed | | |
| RCD functional | | |
| Earthing function | | |

| | Yes/No | Remarks |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Earthing connection loose | | |
| Earthing connection disconnected | | |
| Earthing connection was to a water pipe, local Earth Electrode | | |
| Any further particulars – | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the information given above is correct.

| | |
|-------|-------|
| | |
| Name | Date |

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| | |
| Status | Signature |

