

SAMARAI ELECTRICITY REGULATIONS, 1926. ⁽¹⁾

SHORT TITLE.

1. These regulations may be cited as the *Samarai Electricity Regulations, 1926.*⁽¹⁾

INTERPRETATION.

1A. In these Regulations unless the context otherwise requires the words "the wiring rules" shall mean The Standards Association of Australia Wiring Rules as amended from time to time and available at the office of the Electric Authority.

Ad. by S.R.
1933,
No. 2, r. 1.

SUPPLY RATES. ⁽²⁾

2.—(1.) The following rates shall be charged for the supply of electricity, to be measured by meter or otherwise as indicated (subject to such alterations⁽²⁾⁽³⁾ as may be determined from time to time):—

Lighting :

(1) The *Samarai Electricity Regulations, 1926* (made under the *Samarai Electric Light and Power Ordinance, 1926-1938*) comprise the original *Samarai Electricity Regulations, 1926*, as amended by the other Regulations referred to in the following Table:—

REGULATIONS MADE BY THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Description and number and year.	Date on which made by Lieut.-Gov. in Council.	Date on which published in Papua Govt. Gaz.	Date on which took effect.
<i>Samarai Electricity Regulations, 1926</i> (S.R. 1927, No. 1)	7.12.1926	5.1.1927	5.1.1927 (Papua Govt. Gaz. of 5.1.1927)
<i>Amending Regulations</i> (S.R. 1932, No. 1)	4.12.1931	6.1.1932	1.10.1929 (Reg. 2, S.R. 1932, No. 1)
<i>Amending Regulations</i> (S.R. 1932, No. 4)	11.1.1932	3.2.1932	3.2.1932 (Reg. 2, S.R. 1932, No. 4)
<i>Amending Regulations</i> (S.R. 1933, No. 2)	19.12.1932	4.1.1933	4.1.1933 (Papua Govt. Gaz. of 4.1.1933)
<i>Amending Regulations</i> (S.R. 1935, No. 5)	28.5.1935	5.6.1935	1.7.1935 (Reg. 2, S.R. 1935, No. 5)
<i>Amending Regulation</i> (S.R. 1937, No. 10)	2.11.1937	15.11.1937	15.11.1937 (Papua Govt. Gaz. of 15.11.1937)
<i>Amending Regulation</i> (S.R. 1939, No. 9)	20.6.1939	5.7.1939	5.7.1939 (Papua Govt. Gaz. of 5.7.1939)

(2) By notice dated 12.3.1941 and published in Papua Govt. Gaz. of 2.4.1941, the Electric Authority provided that, "For the purpose of encouraging increased use of electricity in Samarai His Honour the Administrator in Council directs that the Rates appearing in the Schedule to the *Electricity (Port Moresby) Regulations, 1932*, as from time to time amended, apply to Samarai for the period from 1st April, 1941, till the 30th June, 1942."

(3) Pursuant to Regulation 3, the Lieutenant-Governor, by notice dated 10.10.1927 and published in Papua Govt. Gaz. of 2.11.1927, "altered the rate for all electricity used for the lighting of streets or for similar purposes of a public nature from a flat rate of Eight pence (8d.) per Unit to a flat rate of Fourpence (4d.) per Unit. Such altered rate to take effect as from the first day of December, 1927."

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- (a) At a flat rate of One shilling and Sixpence (1s. 6d.) per Unit.
- (b) For all electricity used for the lighting of streets or for similar purposes of a public nature: at a flat rate of Eightpence (8d.) per Unit.⁽³⁾
- (c) For all electricity used for lighting at night sports or for similar purposes: at a flat rate of Eightpence (8d.) per Unit.
- (d) For all electricity used for lighting upon application by a consumer undertaking to consume not less than 225 Units per month Thirteen pounds for the first 225 Units and all in excess of 225 at the ordinary rate applicable.

Para (d) ad.
by S.R. 1932,
No. 1, r. 1.

Power:

- (a) For all electricity used for cooking apparatus, for ventilating fans, for fractional motors, for domestic refrigerating chests, and for all power purposes other than three-phase motors of one horse-power or over, or other apparatus (other than as set out herein) of a capacity of one (1) kilowatt at unity power factor or over: at the rate of Eightpence (8d.) per Unit for the first Forty (40) Units used per month and at the rate of Fourpence (4d.) per Unit for all current used in excess of Forty (40) Units per month.
- (b) For all apparatus not included in (a): at the rate of Eightpence (8d.) per Unit for the first Thirty (30) Units used per month per horse-power, or part thereof, connected; at the rate of Seven and one-half pence (7½d.) per Unit for the next Fifteen (15) Units used per month per horse-power, or part thereof, connected; at the rate of Sevenpence (7d.) per Unit for the next Fifteen (15) Units used per month per horse-power, or part thereof, connected; at the rate of Six and a-quarter pence (6¼d.) per Unit for the next Fifteen (15) Units used per month per horse-power, or part thereof, connected; at the rate of Five and one-half pence (5½d.) per Unit for the next Fifteen (15) Units used per month per horse-power, or part thereof, connected; at the rate of Four and three-quarter pence (4¾d.) per Unit for the next Fifteen (15) Units used per month per horse-power, or part thereof, connected; at the rate of Fourpence (4d.) per Unit for all current used in excess of One hundred and five (105) Units per month per horse-power, or part thereof, connected.

(3) See footnote (3) printed on p. 1827.

- (c) Off-Peak: When the consumer uses electrical energy only at such times and under such conditions as may be specially determined by the Electric Authority the rate of charge shall be Fourpence (4d.) per Unit. The acceptance of applications for the supply of electrical energy at the Off-Peak rate shall be subject to the discretion of the Electric Authority.

Combined lighting and power for domestic purposes:

At the rate of Eightpence (8d.) per Unit when the capacity of the apparatus connected (other than glow-lamps) for domestic purposes is not less than three kilowatts (3 kw.) at unity power factor, and the Units consumed per month for lighting (glow-lamps) are not less than Sixteen (16) and for power are not less than Forty-four (44). This rate shall not apply to hotels or boarding houses, but in such cases the capacity of the apparatus connected, and the minimum number of Units to be consumed per month for lighting and power respectively shall be subject to such variation as the Electric Authority may determine in each particular case. Other conditions governing supply at this rate shall be determined at the discretion of the Electric Authority.

Advertising and demonstrating:

At such rates and under such conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor⁽⁴⁾ may determine from time to time.

Stand-by rate:

A consumer desiring a supply of electricity to supplement a supply from a privately-owned plant or for use as a substitute on occasion of a failure of supply from such a plant shall for any electricity supplied to him pay an added charge of twenty-five per centum of the ordinary rate: Provided that notwithstanding anything elsewhere contained for every installation connected with a meter of the Electric Authority on premises in connection with which a privately-owned plant is used a minimum charge of Twenty shillings per month shall be made whether electricity is consumed in the month or not.

"Stand-by rate" ad. by S.R. 1932, No. 4, r. 1.

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Rate for "Bulk Supply" ad. by S.R. 1937, No. 10, r. 1; rep. by S.R. 1939, No. 9, r. 1.

(2.) The rates authorized to be charged by Sub-regulation (1.) of this regulation shall be considered by the Lieutenant-Governor⁽⁴⁾ after the expiration of three months from the date when electricity is first

(4) See Section 19(2) of the *Ordinance Interpretation Ordinance, 1911-1940.*

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supplied to consumers but such rates shall continue to be charged and payable until they or any of them are varied under the provisions of the next succeeding regulation.

VARIATION OF RATES.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor⁽⁴⁾ shall have the right, from time to time, to increase or decrease the electricity supply rates if he should deem fit to do so. All such alterations shall be notified in the *Gazette*⁽⁵⁾ and such altered rates shall take effect as and from a time fixed in such notification and being at least forty-eight hours after such notification. Consumers will, as and from the time so fixed, pay for electricity consumed by them at the altered rates so notified unless and until they cease to be consumers of electricity. In cases where, at the rates charged by the Electric Authority, the consumption of electricity per installation is not sufficient to yield a return of Two shillings (2s.) per month for each kilowatt at unity power factor or part thereof connected, the sum of Two shillings (2s.) for each kilowatt at unity power factor or part thereof connected shall be the minimum charge for any one installation per month: Provided, however, that the minimum charge for any one installation shall not be less than Six shillings (6s.) per month.

DEPOSIT.

4. The Electric Authority may require a security deposit from applicants for a supply of electricity. Applicants will be notified as to the amount of deposit required as determined by the Electric Authority. When such notification has been forwarded no further action will be taken to connect the premises until the deposit has been paid to the Electric Authority.

METERS TO BE FREE.

5. No charge shall be made by the Electric Authority for the installation or use of a meter.

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TESTING METERS.

7. Any meter will be tested by the Electric Authority's officers on the request of a consumer after prepayment of a fee of Ten shillings (10s.). Should the meter on test be found to be registering more than 2 per cent. in excess of accuracy the fee paid will be refunded. All outstanding accounts must be paid before the test is undertaken unless the Electric Authority otherwise directs.

(4) See Section 19(2) of the *Ordinance Interpretation Ordinance*, 1911-1940.

(5) See footnotes (2) and (3) printed on p. 1827.

TEMPORARY SUPPLY.

8. Where electricity is to be used temporarily, either for lighting or power, it will be charged for at One shilling and Sixpence (1s. 6d.) per Unit for lighting and Eightpence (8d.) per Unit for power. All costs of connection and disconnection will also be charged to the consumer. Temporary supply will be charged for where a special connection is made for purposes for which the supply is required for less than a month; the minimum charge for temporary connection will be Ten shillings (10s.) not including electricity.

TEMPORARY CONNECTION.

9. The following is the scale of charges which will be made for inspection and connection of temporary connections. The charges must be prepaid:—

	£	s.	d.
1. For the inspection and connection of a temporary installation to an existing meter	0	10	0
2. For the inspection, connection and disconnection of a temporary installation requiring one meter	1	0	0
3. For the inspection, connection and disconnection of a temporary installation requiring two meters	1	10	0
4. For the inspection, connection and disconnection of a temporary installation requiring three meters	2	0	0
Each additional meter	0	10	0

TEMPORARY SERVICE.

10. Where it is necessary to lay a temporary service from the mains for building operations or other purposes, an additional charge will be made by the Electric Authority and such charge must be deposited with the Electric Authority before the temporary service is run.

SPECIAL TESTS.

11. Inspection and connection of small power and light installations will be made after the usual working hours at the request of a consumer and upon payment of a fee of Thirty shillings (30s.).

METER REGISTRATION.

12. The register of any meter installed or authorized by the Electric Authority for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied shall be prima facie evidence of such quantity.

ACCOUNTS.

13. Accounts will be rendered weekly, monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly, as the Electric Authority shall decide, and shall be payable at the office of the Electric Authority or at such other place as may be specified on the account. No receipt shall be valid unless on the official receipt form. In the case of neglect or refusal to pay any

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amount due within fourteen days after rendering the account, the Electric Authority may disconnect the supply and remove the meter after twenty-four (24) hours' notice in writing, and a re-connection of the service will only be made when all amounts owing by the consumer have been paid, and, in addition, a re-connecting fee of Five shillings (5s.).

MAINS—POINT OF ATTACHMENT.

14. The Electric Authority will supply and bear the cost of bringing the mains to the nearest point of attachment on a building, provided that such point of attachment does not exceed twenty-five feet from the allotment line; the cost of all work beyond that point to be borne by the consumer.

PREMISES MORE THAN 100 FEET FROM MAIN.

15. If an application for a supply of electricity is made for premises, the allotment line of which is more than 100 feet from a Government main, the Electric Authority shall have power to refuse such application. He may, however, connect such premises to the Government mains if he is of opinion that owing to the location of the mains a hardship would be inflicted by enforcing this regulation: In any other case the applicant shall pay to the Electric Authority an amount equal to the estimated cost, as determined by the Electric Authority, of the additional work.

WIRING RULES.

16. All work in connection with an installation must be carried out and maintained in accordance with the regulations, the wiring rules and to the approval of the Electric Authority.

SERVICE CUT-OUTS, METERS, ETC.

17. The Electric Authority will fix two service cut-outs, meters and meter-board, which shall remain the property of the Government. The position of the service cut-outs and meters will be fixed by the Electric Authority and will be placed as near as convenient to the service leads. All other equipment must be provided by the consumer.

LEADS—FIXING.

18. The consumer must supply and fix leads in accordance with the wiring rules between the termination of the mains, the service cut-outs, meter and meter-board.

CONNECTING LEADS TO MAINS.

19. The consumer must not connect the leads at the mains, service cut-outs or meters—this work will be carried out solely by the Electric Authority.

Am. by S.R.
1933, No. 2, r. 2.

Am. by S.R.
1933, No. 2, r. 3.

ATTACHMENTS TO BUILDINGS.

20. The consumer shall make or allow the Electric Authority to make such attachments to the building as may be necessary to bring the mains into the building.

SUPPLY THROUGH METER OR OTHERWISE.

21. Where electricity is specified to be charged at a rate per Unit of consumption no electricity will be supplied except through a meter: Provided that in any case where a meter is not available, or if for any reason the Electric Authority does not consider it advisable to supply electricity on meter, the rate of pay shall be a flat rate to be determined by the Lieutenant-Governor.⁽⁴⁾

ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO INSTALLATIONS.

22. A consumer shall not make any addition, substitution or alteration to the electrical installation on his premises which involves, in respect to lamps, increase of lighting strength or of power (measured in watts, kilowatts or horse-power), or in respect of motors, cooking, heating or other apparatus, increase of power (measured as aforesaid), until notice shall have been given to the Electric Authority of such addition, substitution or alteration, and approval has been given to same. If such notice be not given the Electric Authority may, without prejudice to any other remedy, cut off the consumer's supply.

FAILURE OF SUPPLY.

23. The Electric Authority will not be responsible for failure in the supply from whatever cause arising.

ACCESS TO PREMISES.

24. The consumer shall give access to his or her premises at all reasonable times to duly authorized officers of the Electric Authority, on the production of an authority signed by the Electric Authority, for the purpose of inspection and for reading the meter.

TESTS.

25. On completion of the consumer's installation, and before connection to the mains, the Electric Authority's officers will inspect and test the installation. Should any such test and inspection show that the installation does not comply with the regulations the Electric Authority at his discretion may make no connection until such regulations are in the opinion of his officers complied with. No charge will be made for the first test and inspection but at the discretion of the Electric Authority a charge of Ten shillings (10s.) may be made for each and every subsequent test and inspection made by the Electric Authority's officers.

DAMAGE TO METERS, FUSES OR OTHER APPARATUS.

26. The consumer shall be held responsible for any loss or damage to meters, fuses or other apparatus the property of the Government on the consumer's premises, whether by fire or other causes.

(4) See Section 19(2) of the *Ordinance Interpretation Ordinance, 1911-1940.*

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DISCONTINUING SUPPLY.

27. The Electric Authority shall have the right, from time to time, to discontinue the supply of electricity at such times as he may desire for the purpose of testing, or for any other purpose connected with the efficient working of the service.

SWITCHES—CONTROL.

28. No switch, except the main switch, shall control more than 10 amperes, except with the special permission of the Electric Authority. All single pole switches must be connected on that pole between which and the earth there is the greatest potential difference. No single pole switches will be allowed in connection with 415-Volt motors.

CONDUCTORS NOT TO BE EARTHED.

Am. by S.R.
1933, No. 2, r. 4.

29. No conductor in a consumer's installation shall be connected to earth, and all conductors must be equally insulated as provided in the wiring rules.

CABLES OUTSIDE BUILDINGS.

30. Conductors run on the outside of a building must either be enclosed in screwed conduit or fixed not less than ten feet above the ground and not less than four feet from any door or window opening.

FITTINGS NEAR EARTHED PIPING.

31. Switches or fittings must not be installed above or in close proximity to stoves, laundry tubs, sinks or baths.

SWITCHES IN DAMP POSITIONS.

32. Metal-covered switches fixed in damp places, bath-rooms, cellars or in any position in which the operator may be in contact with earth or within reach of any earthed metal, must have their covers earthed.

SWITCHES TO BE ON NON-EARTHED CONDUCTORS.

Am. by S.R.
1933, No. 2, r. 5.

33. The ends of non-earthed conductors to which all single pole switches must be connected in accordance with the wiring rules must be labelled "switch-wire" in order that the Electric Authority may correctly connect the consumer's leads to the service leads.

SWITCHBOARDS—LIVE METAL TO BE COVERED.

34. The live metal of all switchboards must be covered, except switchboards erected in engine-rooms or in rooms especially set apart for switchboards.

ISOLATION OF CIRCUITS—POWER AND LIGHT.

35. Two-wire circuits connected to separate phases must be kept isolated from the service fuses onwards (or from the isolating links if provided) and must be run in separate conduits and connected to separate switchboards throughout. Three-phase circuits must be

isolated from two-wire circuits and must be run in separate conduits. The Electric Authority may however at his discretion vary this regulation if in his opinion the circumstances applying to any particular installation would justify any such variation.

NATURE AND PROTECTION OF CONSUMER'S LEADS.

36. The consumer's main switchboard may be placed in any convenient position on his premises. The conductors between the point of entry and the consumer's main switch must be enclosed in steel conduit or (with the permission of the Electric Authority) a lead conduit and must be stranded and be of adequate sectional area which in no case may be less than that of a 7/036-in. cable.

TYPE OF SWITCHES AND FUSES.

37. In cases where the main switches and fuses are fixed on the supply side of the meter, they must be ironclad or other approved type and suitable for sealing with the Electric Authority's seal.

WATER HEATERS.

38. Water heaters in which the heating element is in direct contact with the water will not be connected if the resistance between the heating element and earth is less than 10,000 ohms with the water running. The water must not leave the heater at above earth-potential.

Water heaters will not be connected if the current required is greater than the following:—

For connection to—

a 240-Volt service, 15 amperes.

a 3-phase 415-Volt service, 12 amperes.

The heater must be arranged so that the electricity consumed may be measured by one meter and in the case of the 3-phase heater the current in the phases must be balanced as nearly as practicable. The current in one phase must not be greater than the current in any other phase by more than 2 per cent.

ELECTRIC COOKERS.

39. The maximum current taken by electric cookers must not be greater than the following:—

When connected to a 2-wire service, 15 amperes (about 3½ kilowatts).

When connected to a 3-wire service, 30 amperes (about 7 kilowatts).

ELECTRIC WELDING APPARATUS.

40. Electricity may be supplied for electric welding apparatus provided the power required is not greater than can be carried by the mains serving the premises without adversely affecting the supply to neighbouring consumers. The maximum size of the welder which will be connected at any premises will be given on supplying particulars to the Electric Authority.

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INTERFERENCE WITH THE SUPPLY TO OTHER CONSUMERS.

41. Applicants wishing to connect electric welding apparatus, furnaces, X-ray outfits, rapidly fluctuating motor loads and the like should first communicate with the Electric Authority and ascertain what conditions they should observe with regard to such apparatus.

In the event of a consumer operating any such apparatus aforesaid or any lift or motor or any other apparatus in such a manner as will interfere with the supply to other consumers, the Electric Authority may call upon him to make such necessary adjustments or alterations and to so operate the apparatus as to ensure that the supply to other consumers will not be interfered with and, in the event of his failing to do so, the Electric Authority may cut off the supply of electricity to him. The fact that the Electric Authority shall have connected and approved of the apparatus aforesaid shall not be taken to exempt the consumer from the operation of this clause.

INSPECTION.

42. No new installation and no additions to an existing installation may be connected until it has been inspected and approved by the Electric Authority's Inspector. In the lighting installation the lamps must not be fitted in the holders until the installations have been inspected, tested and approved for connection.

DEFECTS ON INSTALLATION.

43. If any defect in a consumer's installation is at any time discovered, the Electric Authority shall be at liberty to disconnect the installation until such defect is made good.

INTERFERENCE WITH SEAL.

44. The consumer must not interfere with or remove the seals from the meter or other apparatus, and no person other than an officer of the Electric Authority shall be permitted to make any connection between the consumer's installation and the mains.

REQUESTS FOR SUPPLY.

45. All requests for supply or extensions of supply of electricity must be made on the printed form supplied by the Electric Authority for the purpose.

LIABILITY FOR LOSS.

46. The Electric Authority shall not be liable for any loss suffered by any person in consequence of any failure to supply electricity or light, or of defect in such supply.

PREMISES UNSUITABLE FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION.

47. Should the Electric Authority consider that any premises are unsuited to the purpose of carrying an electrical installation he may decline to supply electricity to such premises.

ELECTRIC INSTALLATIONS BY ELECTRIC AUTHORITY.

48. The Electric Authority may make electrical installations in any premises on behalf of the owner or of the tenant or occupier with the owner's consent under the following conditions:—

- (1) When there is no person capable of undertaking and willing to undertake electrical installations; or
- (2) where there is unreasonable delay on the part of any person who has undertaken to make electrical installations in making such installations; or
- (3) where the charges demanded by any person for making electrical installations are shown to be unreasonable.

49. The charges for electrical installations by the Electric Authority shall be such as mutually agreed upon between the Electric Authority and the owner of the premises or the tenant or occupier thereof.

RE-CONNECTING FEE.

50. When the supply of electricity to any installation has been disconnected, or the service fuses have been broken, the Electric Authority at his discretion may charge a re-connecting fee of Five shillings (5s.). After ordinary hours, Ten shillings (10s.).

UNSAFE APPARATUS.

51. If, in the opinion of the Electric Authority, or any of his officers, any electrical apparatus used by a consumer is in an unsafe condition the Electric Authority may prohibit the further use of such apparatus. Should the consumer fail to observe any such prohibition the Electric Authority may disconnect the supply of electricity to such consumer.

RENT FOR ELECTRICAL APPARATUS OR LINES.

52. The Electric Authority may install electric lines, fittings and apparatus in buildings or on premises approved to receive electricity, and may charge rent for same at such rate or rates as the Lieutenant-Governor⁽⁴⁾ may determine from time to time.

WRONGFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY.

53. No person shall use electricity for any purpose other than the purpose indicated by the rate of charge approved for the installation in question.

REPORTS TO LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR⁽⁴⁾ OF ACCIDENTS.

54. Where any accident by explosion or fire, or any other accident of such kind as to have caused or to be likely to have caused loss of life or personal injury, has occurred at any part of any electric line or other works the Electric Authority shall give immediate notice thereof to the Lieutenant-Governor.⁽⁴⁾

(4) See Section 19(2) of the *Ordinance Interpretation Ordinance, 1911-1940.*

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WASTING ELECTRICITY.

55. Every person who maliciously causes to be wasted or diverted any electricity shall be guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction and shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty pounds.

DAMAGE TO WORKS.

56. Any person who shall wilfully or negligently injure or damage or cause to be injured or damaged any of the works under the control of the Electric Authority shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding Twenty pounds, and in addition he shall be liable for the cost of repairing any such injury or damage. Nothing herein contained shall operate as a bar to proceedings under any other law or laws for the time being in force: Provided always that no person shall be liable to be punished twice for the same offence.