

## 1992 No. 118

## ELECTRICITY

**Overhead Lines (Exemption) Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 1992**

*Made* . . . . . 12th March 1992

*Coming into operation* . . . . . 10th April 1992

The Department of Economic Development, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 40(2) and 64 of the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

*Citation and commencement*

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Overhead Lines (Exemption) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 and shall come into operation on 10th April 1992.

*Interpretation*

2. In these Regulations—

“the Order” means the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992;

“existing line” means an electric line which—

- (a) has been installed or is kept installed above ground in accordance with a consent granted under Article 40(1) of the Order; or
- (b) has been installed above ground and is an electric line to which Article 40(1) of the Order does not apply either by virtue of paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 13 to the Order or by virtue of any provision of these Regulations.

*Exemptions from Article 40(1) of the Order*

3.—(1) Article 40(1) of the Order shall not apply in relation to—

- (a) the installation or keeping installed of an electric line which—
  - (i) connects an electric line installed below ground with apparatus mounted on a pole or structure; and
  - (ii) is attached to the pole or structure throughout its length except where it passes through a fuse or other apparatus;

- (b) the installation or keeping installed of a wire or cable (including its casing or coating) which forms part of telecommunication apparatus (within the meaning given to that expression in paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Telecommunications Act 1984(a)) and which is supported, or carried by, or suspended from the supports for an existing line;
  - (c) the installation or keeping installed for a period not exceeding six months of an electric line which connects two points on an existing line which are no further apart than the maximum distance so as to provide a diversion for the existing line;
  - (d) the installation or keeping installed of an electric line attached to a building where that building crosses a road, railway or watercourse and its principal purpose is not the support of the electric line; or
  - (e) the installation or keeping installed, subject to the limitations in regulation 4, of an electric line which replaces an existing line whether or not it is installed in the same position as the existing line in question.
- (2) In paragraph (1)—
- “building” includes structure; and
  - “the maximum distance” means—
    - (a) in relation to an electric line which has a nominal voltage less than 110 kilovolts, 500 metres; and
    - (b) in relation to any other electric line, 850 metres.

*Limitations on the exemptions contained in regulation 3*

- 4.—(1) The limitations referred to in regulation 3(1)(e) are—
- (a) that the electric line does not have a nominal voltage greater than the nominal voltage of the existing line;
  - (b) that any conditions contained in a consent granted under Article 40(1) of the Order or, as the case may be, under Article 39 of the Electricity Supply (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(b) applicable to the existing line are complied with; and
  - (c) that where the electric line is installed in a different position from the existing line the distance between any small support and the existing line does not exceed 30 metres and the distance between any other support and the existing line does not exceed 60 metres.
- (2) In paragraph (1)—
- (a) any reference to the distance between a support and an existing line is a reference to the shortest distance between the centre of the base of that support and an imaginary line through the centre of the base of each support for the existing line; and
  - (b) “small support” means a support for an electric line which does not exceed 10 metres in height.

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(a) 1984 c. 12

(b) S.I. 1972/1072 (N.I. 9)

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Economic  
Development on 12th March 1992.

(L.S.)

*D. Thomson*

Assistant Secretary

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations make provision for the cases where the consent of the Department of Economic Development is not required under Article 40 of the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 to the installation or keeping installed of an electric line above ground. The cases are specified in regulation 3, subject in certain circumstances to the limitations set out in regulation 4.