
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1988 No. 1057

The Electricity Supply Regulations 1988

PART III

ELECTRIC LINES BELOW GROUND

General restriction

9. No supplier shall knowingly Supply through electric lines placed below ground (except those in generating stations and substations under the control of the supplier or forming part of a consumer's installation) which do not comply with this Part of these Regulations.

Protective screens

10.—(1) Conductors which are placed below ground and are not connected with earth shall be insulated from earth otherwise than by a support and protected in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) The protection referred to in paragraph (1) shall comprise—

- (a) in respect of joints or terminations of a conductor in a low voltage system, some form of mechanical protection; and
- (b) in respect of any other part of any conductor, an electrically continuous metallic screen connected with earth,

so placed as to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, any tool or device likely to be used in the vicinity shall make contact with that protection or screen before it can make contact with that conductor.

(3) A supply neutral conductor may be combined in a single device or arrangement with either or both of—

- (a) a metallic screen or armouring;
- (b) other protective material.

Excavations

11.—(1) Every conductor below ground shall be placed at such depth as to avoid, so far as is reasonably practicable, any damage or danger by reason of such uses of the land which can reasonably be expected when the conductor is placed below ground.

(2) In addition to satisfying the requirements of paragraph (1), a conductor below ground used in a supplier's high voltage system but not connected with earth shall be laid in such manner (whether in pipes or ducts or so overlaid at such a distance above the conductor by protective tiles or warning tape or Some other protective or warning device or otherwise) as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that any person excavating the ground above the conductor will receive a warning of its presence.