

2000 No. 433

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

The Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2000

Made - - - - 16th February 2000

Coming into force 23rd February 2000

Whereas the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board has submitted proposals for the raising and collection of a levy under section 11(1) of the Industrial Training Act 1982(a) (“the 1982 Act”);

And whereas in pursuance of section 11(3) of the 1982 Act the said proposals include provision for the exemption from the levy of employers who, in view of the small number of their employees, ought in the opinion of the Secretary of State to be exempted from it;

And whereas the proposals are made in pursuance of section 11(4)(b) of the 1982 Act and the Secretary of State is satisfied that those proposals fall within section 11(5)(b) of the said Act (“the relevant proposals”) and that they are necessary as mentioned in the said section 11(5), and that the condition mentioned in section 11(6)(a) of the 1982 Act is satisfied in the case of the relevant proposals;

And whereas the Secretary of State considers that the amount which will be payable by virtue of the following Order by certain employers in the engineering construction industry and which he estimates will exceed an amount which he estimates as equal to one per cent of relevant emoluments, is appropriate in all the circumstances, and the following Order therefore falls within section 11(7)(b) of the 1982 Act;

And whereas the Secretary of State has consulted the Scottish Ministers pursuant to section 88(2) of the Scotland Act 1998(b);

And whereas a draft of the following Order was laid before Parliament in accordance with section 12(6) of the 1982 Act and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament;

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 11(2), 12(3) and (4) of the 1982 Act and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:—

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2000 and shall come into force on the seventh day after the day on which it is made.

(a) 1982 c. 10; sections 11 and 12 were amended by the Employment Act 1989 (c. 38), Schedule 4, paragraphs 10 and 11 respectively.

(b) 1998 c. 46; the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board has been specified as a cross border authority for the purposes of section 88; see the Scotland Act 1998 (Cross Border Public Authorities) (Specification) Order 1999; S.I. 1999/1319.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this Order unless the context otherwise requires:—

- (a) “agriculture” has the same meaning as in section 109(3) of the Agriculture Act 1947^(a) or, in relation to Scotland, as in section 85(1) of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991^(b);
- (b) “assessment” means an assessment of an employer to the levy;
- (c) “the Board” means the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board^(c), formerly known as the Engineering Industry Training Board;
- (d) “business” means any activities of industry or commerce;
- (e) “charity” has the same meaning as in section 506 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988^(d);
- (f) “emoluments” means all emoluments assessable to income tax under Schedule E of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (other than pensions), being emoluments from which tax under that Schedule is deductible, whether or not tax in fact falls to be deducted from any particular payment thereof;
- (g) “employer” (except in article 2(2) of this Order) means a person who is an employer in the engineering construction industry at any time in the thirty-sixth levy period;
- (h) “the engineering construction industry” means any one or more of the activities which, subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the industrial training order, are specified in paragraph 1 of that Schedule as activities of the engineering construction industry;
- (i) “engineering construction establishment” means an establishment in Great Britain engaged in the thirty-sixth base period wholly or mainly in the engineering construction industry for a total of twenty-seven or more weeks, or being an establishment that commenced to carry on business in the said base period, for a total number of weeks exceeding one half of the number of weeks in the part of the said base period commencing with the day on which business was commenced and ending on the last day thereof;
- (j) “engineering construction activities” means any one or more of the activities which, subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the industrial training order, are activities of the engineering construction industry by virtue of paragraph 1(a) of that Schedule and any related or administrative activities of a kind to which paragraph 1(c) of that Schedule applies undertaken in relation thereto;
- (k) “establishment” means an engineering construction establishment or an establishment comprising engineering construction activities;
- (l) “establishment comprising engineering construction activities” means an establishment at or from which persons were employed in the thirty-sixth base period in engineering construction activities for a total of twenty-seven or more weeks, or being an establishment that commenced to carry on business in the said base period, for a total number of weeks exceeding one half of the number of weeks in the part of the said base period commencing with the day on which business was commenced and ending on the last day thereof, but does not include an engineering construction establishment;
- (m) “the industrial training order” means the Industrial Training (Engineering Board) Order 1964^(e);
- (n) “labour-only agreement” means any agreement or arrangement, either written or oral, not being a contract of service or apprenticeship, made between an employer and any other person or persons, the purpose of which is wholly or mainly the provision of services (including the incidental use of tools) of such person or persons or of any other person or persons to the employer in his trade or business;
- (o) “the levy” means the levy imposed by the Board in respect of the thirty-sixth levy period;

(a) 1947 c. 48.

(b) 1991 c. 55.

(c) The Board was re-named by S.I. 1991/1305.

(d) 1988 c. 1.

(e) S.I. 1964/1086, amended by S.I. 1991/1305.

- (p) “notice” means a notice in writing;
- (q) “off site employee” means an employee (including a person employed under a labour-only agreement) other than a site employee;
- (r) “site employee” means an employee (including a person employed under a labour-only agreement) the activities of whose employment take place wholly or mainly at a site where activities falling under paragraph 1(a) of Schedule 1 to the industrial training order are carried on;
- (s) “the thirty-sixth levy period” means the period commencing with the day upon which this Order comes into force and ending on 31st August 2000;
- (t) “the thirty-sixth base period” means the period of twelve months that commenced on 6th April 1999.

(2) In reckoning the amount of emoluments for the purposes of this Order no regard shall be had to the emoluments of any person—

- (a) undergoing a course of training as a seagoing officer or rating under an agreement in writing with an employer in the shipping industry, or with any organisation of employers in that industry or with any association of such organisations;
- (b) engaged wholly in agriculture;
- (c) engaged wholly in the supply of food or drink for immediate consumption;
- (d) holding office as a company director and having no contract of service.

(3) Any reference in this Order to an establishment that commences to carry on business or that ceases to carry on business shall not be taken to apply where the location of the establishment is changed but its business is continued wholly or mainly at or from the new location, or where the suspension of activities is of a temporary or seasonal nature.

(4) For the purposes of this Order in the case of an establishment that is taken over (whether directly or indirectly) by an employer in succession to, or jointly with another person, the person or persons carrying on the establishment on the day upon which this Order comes into force shall be treated as the employer of any person who was employed at any time in the thirty-sixth base period at or from the establishment under a contract of service or of apprenticeship or under a labour-only agreement and that employer shall be assessed to levy in accordance with article 3 of this Order.

(5) This Order applies to the activities of the engineering construction industry in so far as they are carried out in Great Britain or in so far as they are for such purposes as are relevant to or in relation to employment to which the Employment Protection (Offshore Employment) Order 1976(a) applies.

Imposition of levy

3.—(1) The levy to be imposed by the Board on employers in respect of the thirty-sixth levy period shall be assessed in accordance with the provisions of this article.

(2) The levy shall be assessed by the Board separately in respect of each establishment of an employer, but in agreement with the employer one assessment may be made in respect of any number of such establishments, in which case those establishments shall be deemed for the purpose of that assessment to constitute one establishment.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this article the levy on each employer shall be assessed by the Board in respect of the emoluments and net labour-only payments paid by him to all persons to whom paragraph (4) below applies employed by the employer in the thirty-sixth base period at relevant establishments of his (that is to say, any engineering construction establishment or establishments, or any establishment or establishments comprising engineering construction activities other than an establishment or establishments of an employer who is exempt from the levy by virtue of articles 4 and 5 of this Order), and the amount of the levy shall be as specified in paragraph (5) below.

(a) S.I. 1976/766; the whole of the Industrial Training Act 1982 has been applied by the Employment Protection (Offshore Employment) Order 1976 for such purposes as are relevant to or in relation to persons in employment to which that Order applies (article 3 and Part I of the Schedule, paragraph 1); relevant amending instruments are S.I. 1977/588 and 1981/208.

- (4) This paragraph applies to—
- (a) in the case of an engineering construction establishment, all persons employed;
 - (b) in the case of an establishment comprising engineering construction activities, all persons employed wholly or mainly in engineering construction activities.
- (5) Subject to articles 4 and 5 of this Order the levy assessed in respect of any establishment referred to in paragraph (3) of this article shall be the aggregate of—
- (a) an amount equal to 1.5 per cent of the sum of—
 - (i) the total emoluments of all site employees employed in the thirty-sixth base period at or from the establishment by the employer, and
 - (ii) the total net labour-only payments made in the thirty-sixth base period for site employees;
 where that sum exceeds £75,000; and
 - (b) an amount equal to 0.18 per cent of the sum of—
 - (i) the total emoluments for all off site employees employed in the thirty-sixth base period at or from the establishment by the employer, and
 - (ii) the total net labour-only payments made in the thirty-sixth base period for off site employees;
 where that sum exceeds £1,000,000.
- (6) For the purposes of paragraph (5) of this article the net labour-only payments during the thirty-sixth base period is the difference between labour-only payments and labour-only receipts during that period (and where labour-only receipts exceed labour-only payments the net labour-only payments shall be zero) and for the purposes of this paragraph—
- (a) “labour-only payments” in any period means the sum which (rounded down where necessary to the nearest £1) represents all payments (including payments for the incidental use of tools) made by the employer during the period under labour-only agreements for services rendered to him in his trade or business carried out at or from the establishment; and
 - (b) “labour-only receipts” in any period means the sum which (rounded down where necessary to the nearest £1) represents all payments (including payments for the incidental use of tools) received by the employer during the period under labour-only agreements for services rendered by him or on his behalf in his trade or business carried out at or from the establishment.

Exemption of charities

4. A charity shall be exempted from the levy.

Exemption of small employers

5. An employer shall be exempt from the levy in respect of any establishment where—
- (a) the sum of the emoluments and net labour-only payments referred to in article 3(5)(a)(i) and (ii) of this Order do not exceed £75,000; and
 - (b) the sum of the emoluments and net labour-only payments referred to in article 3(5)(b)(i) and (ii) of this Order do not exceed £1,000,000.

Assessment notices

- 6.—(1) The Board shall serve an assessment notice on every employer assessed to the levy, but one notice may comprise two or more assessments.
- (2) The amount of any assessment payment under an assessment notice shall be rounded down to the nearest £1.
- (3) An assessment notice shall state the amount of the levy payable by the person assessed to the levy, and that amount shall be equal to the total amount of the levy assessed by the Board under the provisions of this Order in respect of each establishment included in the notice.
- (4) An assessment notice shall state the Board’s address for the service of a notice of appeal or of an application for an extension of time for appealing.

(5) An assessment notice may be served on the person assessed to the levy either by delivering it to him personally or by leaving it, or sending it to him by post, at his last known address or place of business in the United Kingdom, or if that person is a corporation, by leaving it, or sending it by post to the corporation, at such address or place of business or at its registered or principle office.

Payment of the levy

7.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this Order, the amount of each assessment appearing in an assessment notice served by the Board (the date of which shall not be earlier than 31st August 2000) shall be due and payable by the employer to the Board one month after the date of the notice.

(2) The amount of an assessment shall not be recoverable by the Board until there has expired the time for appealing against the assessment allowed by article 9(1) of this Order and any further period or periods of time that the Board or an employment tribunal may have allowed for appealing under paragraph (2) or (3) of that article or where an appeal is brought, until the appeal is decided or withdrawn.

Withdrawal of assessment

8.—(1) The Board may, by a notice served on the person assessed to the levy in the same manner as an assessment notice, withdraw an assessment if that person has appealed against that assessment under the provisions of article 9 of this Order and the appeal has not been entered in the Register of Appeals kept under the appropriate Regulations specified in paragraph (4) of that article.

(2) The withdrawal of an assessment shall be without prejudice—

- (a) to the power of the Board to serve a further assessment notice in respect of any establishment to which that assessment related; or
- (b) to any other assessment included in the original assessment notice, and such notice shall thereupon have effect as if any assessment withdrawn by the Board had not been included therein.

Appeals

9.—(1) A person assessed to the levy may appeal to an employment tribunal against the assessment within one month from the date of the service of the assessment notice or within any further period or periods of time that may be allowed by the Board or an employment tribunal under the following provisions of this article.

(2) The Board by notice may for good cause allow a person assessed to the levy to appeal to an employment tribunal against the assessment at any time within the period of four months from the date of the service of the assessment notice or within such further period or periods as the Board may allow before such time as may then be limited for appealing has expired.

(3) If the Board shall not allow an application for extension of time for appealing, an employment tribunal shall upon application made to the tribunal by the person assessed to the levy have the like powers as the Board under paragraph (2) above.

(4) An appeal or an application to an employment tribunal under this article shall be made in accordance with the Employment Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations 1993^(a) except where the establishment to which the relevant assessment relates is wholly in Scotland in which case the appeal or application shall be made in accordance with the Employment Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1993^(b).

(a) S.I. 1993/2687, amended by S.I. 1994/536 and 1996/1757. The title of these Regulations, formerly “the Industrial Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations 1993”, was amended by operation of section 1(2) of the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Act 1998 c. 8.

(b) S.I. 1993/2688, amended by S.I. 1994/538 and 1996/1758. The title of these Regulations, formerly “the Industrial Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1993”, was amended by operation of section 1(2) of the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Act 1998 c. 8.

(5) The powers of an employment tribunal under paragraph (3) of this article may be exercised by the President of the Employment Tribunals (England and Wales) or by the President of the Employment Tribunals (Scotland) as the case may be.

Cessation of business

10.—(1) The provisions of this article shall apply in relation to an establishment that ceases to carry on business in the thirty-sixth levy period.

(2) The amount of the levy imposed in respect of the establishment shall be in the same proportion to the amount that would otherwise be due under the provisions of article 3 of this Order as the number of days between the commencement of the thirty-sixth levy period and the date of cessation of business (both dates inclusive) bears to the number of days in the said levy period.

(3) Article 7(1) of this Order shall have effect as if the words in parenthesis were omitted.

Evidence

11.—(1) Upon the discharge by a person assessed to the levy of his liability under an assessment the Board shall if so requested issue to him a certificate to that effect.

(2) The production in any proceedings of a document purporting to be certified by the Secretary of the Board or any other person, being a member, officer or servant of the Board authorised to act in that behalf, to be true copy of an assessment or other notice issued by the Board or purporting to be a certificate such as is mentioned in paragraph (1) above shall, unless the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence of the document and of the facts stated therein.

16th February 2000

Malcolm Wicks
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,
Department for Education and Employment.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to proposals of the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board which were submitted to the Secretary of State. The proposals are for the imposition of a levy on employers in the engineering construction industry (including employers who are not mainly engaged in engineering construction activities but are engaged in any related or administrative activities of a kind to which paragraph 1(c) of Schedule 1 to the Industrial Training (Engineering Board) Order 1964 (as amended by the Industrial Training (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1991) applies; and for those employers the levy will be imposed only in respect of the said related or administrative activities) for the purpose of raising money towards meeting the expenses of the Board.

The levy is to be imposed in respect of the thirty-sixth levy period commencing on the day upon which this Order comes into force and ending on 31st August 2000.

Subject to the exemptions in articles 4 and 5, the levy will be assessed by the Board in accordance with article 3, and there will be a right of appeal against an assessment to an employment tribunal.

A full regulatory assessment of the effect that this Order will have on the costs of business is available from the Department for Education and Employment, Library and Information Service, Moorfoot, Sheffield S1 4PQ or Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

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