

## STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS

1929, No. 952

### PETROLEUM

THE PETROLEUM-SPIRIT (MOTOR VEHICLES, &C.) REGULATIONS, 1929, DATED OCTOBER 28, 1929, MADE BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928 (18 & 19 GEO. 5. C. 32), AS TO THE KEEPING AND USE OF PETROLEUM-SPIRIT FOR THE PURPOSES OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTOR BOATS, AIRCRAFT AND CERTAIN CLASSES OF ENGINES.

By virtue of the powers conferred on me by section 10 of the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), I hereby make the following Regulations:—

#### *Exemption from Act and application of Regulations*

1.—(1) Subject as hereinafter provided, the keeping and use of petroleum-spirit by persons intending to use it for the purpose of any motor vehicle, motor boat or aircraft, or of any class of engine specified in the Schedule to these Regulations and not either wholly or partly for the purposes of sale, shall be exempt from the operation of sections 1 to 9 inclusive of the Act, and petroleum-spirit kept and used by persons intending to use it as aforesaid shall be kept and used in accordance with the regulations hereinafter contained:

(2) Provided that on the application of any person intending to use petroleum-spirit as aforesaid, the local authority may grant a petroleum-spirit licence authorising the keeping thereof, and the said exemption and regulations shall not apply in respect of any petroleum-spirit so authorised to be kept.

#### *Keeping of Petroleum-spirit*

2. The petroleum-spirit shall not be kept otherwise than in metal vessels so constructed and maintained in such condition as:—

- (a) to be reasonably secure against breakage; and
- (b) to prevent the leakage of any liquid or vapour therefrom.

3. No person shall repair or cause to be repaired any vessel in which, to his knowledge, any petroleum-spirit is or has been kept until he has taken all reasonable precautions to ensure that the vessel has been rendered free from petroleum-spirit and from any inflammable vapour occasioned thereby.

4. Any vessel used for the purpose of keeping the petroleum-spirit, not being the fuel tank of a motor vehicle, motor boat, aircraft or engine, shall bear, in conspicuous characters, the words "petroleum-spirit" and the words "highly inflammable" indelibly marked on the vessel or, where that is impracticable, on a metal label attached thereto.

5. The petroleum-spirit shall not be kept in any storage place which does not comply with the following requirements, that is to say:—

- (a) the storage place shall, unless it is in the open air, be effectively ventilated to the open air;
- (b) there shall, unless the storage place is in the open air, be an entrance thereto direct from the open air;
- (c) in the storage place, or as near thereto as is reasonably practicable, there shall be kept fire extinguishing apparatus of a type capable of extinguishing fires occasioned by burning petroleum-spirit, or a supply of sand or other effective means for extinguishing such fires;

(d) the storage place shall not form part of or be attached to any building used as a dwelling-place or as a place where persons assemble for any purpose unless it is separated therefrom by a substantial floor or partition which—

- (i) is constructed of material not readily inflammable ; and
- (ii) has no opening therein, so, however, that in the case of a storage place in which the only petroleum-spirit kept, in addition to that contained in the fuel-tank of any motor vehicle, motor boat, aircraft or engine, is kept in not more than two vessels of capacity not exceeding two gallons each, there may be an opening in any such partition (not being a floor) if the opening is fitted with a self-closing door constructed of hard wood or other fire resisting material ;

(e) the storage place, if in any building, shall not be situated under any staircase or under any other means of exit likely to be required to be used for escape in case of fire unless it is separated therefrom by a substantial floor or partition conforming to the requirements contained in sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii) of the last foregoing paragraph.

6. Not more than sixty gallons of petroleum-spirit shall be kept at the same time in any one storage place, and in computing for the purposes of this regulation the amount of petroleum-spirit kept in any one storage place—

- (a) any petroleum-spirit contained in the fuel tank of, or otherwise carried on, any motor vehicle, motor boat, aircraft or engine for the time being within the storage place shall be deemed to be kept in the storage place ; and
- (b) any two storage places not more than twenty feet apart, in the occupation of the same occupier, shall be deemed to be one storage place.

7.—(1) The petroleum-spirit shall not be kept in any vessel of capacity exceeding two gallons, not being the fuel-tank of a motor vehicle, motor boat, aircraft or engine, unless—

- (a) it is kept in a storage place situated more than twenty feet from any building, highway or public footpath ; and
- (b) provision has been made by excavation or by the erection of retaining walls or otherwise to prevent the petroleum-spirit from flowing out of the storage place in case of fire ; and
- (c) notice in writing that the petroleum-spirit is proposed to be so kept has been given to the local authority in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.

(2) The said notice shall be given by the occupier of the storage place before keeping the petroleum-spirit or permitting it to be kept in a vessel of capacity exceeding two gallons, and thereafter annually in the month of January.

8.—(1) The petroleum-spirit shall not, in any storage place situated within twenty feet of any building or of any stack of timber or other inflammable substance, be kept otherwise than—

- (a) in the fuel-tank of any motor vehicle, motor boat, aircraft or engine ; and
- (b) in not more than two other vessels of capacity not exceeding two gallons each carried thereon,

unless notice in writing that petroleum-spirit is proposed to be kept in the storage place otherwise than as aforesaid has been given to the local authority in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.

(2) The said notice shall be given by the occupier of the storage place before so keeping the petroleum-spirit or permitting it to be so kept, and thereafter annually in the month of January.

9. All reasonable precautions shall be taken at every storage place to prevent any fire or artificial light liable to ignite inflammable vapour being so near any vessel in which the petroleum-spirit is kept as to be dangerous.

*Use of Petroleum-spirit*

10. No operation involving the exposure of petroleum-spirit shall be carried on in the neighbourhood of any fire or artificial light liable to ignite inflammable vapour.

11. Subject as hereinafter provided, no petroleum-spirit shall be used in any storage place otherwise than as fuel for a motor vehicle, motor boat, aircraft or engine :

Provided that petroleum-spirit may be used therein—

(a) as fuel for any lamp or other apparatus used for the purpose of lighting or heating, so constructed and maintained in such condition as not to be liable to ignite inflammable vapour otherwise than as such fuel ; and

(b) in quantities not exceeding at any one time one gill, for cleaning or as a solvent for repair purposes.

12. No person shall wilfully or negligently empty, turn or permit to enter into any sewer or any drain communicating with a sewer any petroleum-spirit.

*Special Provisions as to Engines used in connection with the making or repair of Roads*

13. With respect to the keeping and use on any road of petroleum-spirit for the purposes of any engine used in connection with the making or repair of roads, these regulations shall apply subject to the following modifications and additions :—

(a) before any petroleum-spirit is so kept, the person intending to keep it shall give to the local authority notice in writing of his intention to do so :

(b) Regulation 6 (which limits the quantity of petroleum-spirit that may be kept in a storage place) shall have effect as if for the words " sixty gallons " there were therein substituted the words " thirty gallons " :

(c) Regulations 7 and 8 shall not apply :

(d) the petroleum-spirit shall not be kept in any vessel of capacity exceeding two gallons, not being the fuel-tank of the engine :

(e) not more than one such vessel shall be open at a time and no such vessel shall be open for any purpose other than that of fuelling the engine :

(f) all such vessels shall be kept in an iron locker :

(g) no such locker shall be situated within fifty feet of any means of exit from a theatre, music hall, cinema, or other place of public entertainment, or from a hospital, nor within fifteen feet of any means of exit from any other place where persons assemble for any purpose, or from a dwelling-house :

(h) all reasonable precautions shall be taken to prevent any unauthorised person having access to any such locker and to prevent any fire or artificial light liable to ignite inflammable vapour being within twenty feet of any such locker.

*Supplementary*

14.—(1) The Interpretation Act, 1889(a), applies for the purposes of the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the purposes of the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

(2) In these Regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say:—

“Engine” means an engine of any class specified in the Schedule to these Regulations:

“Local authority”, in relation to any storage place or petroleum-spirit, means the local authority empowered under the Act to grant petroleum-spirit licences in respect of the storage place or petroleum-spirit:

“Road” includes any highway and any street, bridge, lane, footway, square, court, mews, alley, or passage, whether a thoroughfare or not:

“Storage place” includes any room, building or place of any kind whatsoever, whether or not in the open air, used or proposed to be used for keeping therein petroleum-spirit for the purposes of any motor vehicle, motor boat, aircraft or engine.

15. The Regulations made by a Secretary of State under section 5 of the Locomotives on Highways Act, 1896(b), dated respectively the 31st July, 1907(c), and the 7th November, 1923(d), are hereby revoked:

Provided that any notice given in accordance with the requirements of those Regulations shall have effect as if given under these Regulations.

16. These Regulations shall come into force on the first day of December, 1929, and may be cited as the Petroleum-spirit (Motor Vehicles, &c.) Regulations, 1929.

*J. R. Clynes,*

One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Home Office,  
Whitehall, S.W.1.

28th October, 1929.

## SCHEDULE

*Engines to which these Regulations apply*

1. Engines used for the propulsion of lawn mowers, rollers or sweepers or of agricultural implements.
2. Stationary engines kept for domestic or agricultural purposes and used for the generation of power transmitted to any machine.
3. Stationary engines kept for domestic purposes and used for the generation of heat or light by means of electricity or petroleum-spirit vapour.
4. Engines used in connection with the construction or maintenance of works forming part of a harbour or canal.
5. Engines used in connection with the making or repair of roads.

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.      (b) 59 & 60 Vict. c. 36.      (c) S.R. & O. 1907 (No. 614) p. 424.  
(d) S.R. & O. 1923 (No. 1359) p. 439.

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