



Coal Industry Nationalisation Act 1946

1946 CHAPTER 59

The National Coal Board.

4 Consumers' councils.

- (1) There shall be established for the purposes mentioned in this section two consumers' councils, to be known respectively as the Industrial Coal Consumers' Council and the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council.
- (2) Each of the said councils shall consist of such number of persons as the Minister may think fit, appointed by him to represent the Board, and—
 - (a) in the case of the Industrial Coal Consumers' Council, after consultation with such bodies representative of the interests concerned as the Minister thinks fit, to represent consumers of coal, coke and manufactured fuel respectively, for industrial purposes or other purposes involving supply in bulk, and persons engaged in organising or effecting the sale or supply, whether for home use or for export, of coal, coke and manufactured fuel respectively, for those purposes ;
 - (b) in the case of the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council, after consultation with such bodies representative of the interests concerned as the Minister thinks fit, to represent consumers of coal, coke and manufactured fuel respectively, for domestic purposes and other purposes not falling within the preceding paragraph, and persons engaged in organising or effecting the sale or supply of coal, coke and manufactured fuel respectively, for those purposes.

In formulating his proposals for appointments to each of the said councils, the Minister shall have particular regard to nominations made to him by the said bodies representative of the interests concerned of persons recommended by them as having both adequate knowledge of the requirements of those interests and also qualifications for exercising a wide and impartial judgment on the matters to be dealt with by the council generally.

- (3) The Industrial Coal Consumers' Council shall be charged with the duties—
 - (a) of considering any matter affecting the sale or supply, whether for home use or for export, of coal, coke or manufactured fuel for the purposes mentioned

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- in paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of this section which is the subject of a representation made to them by consumers for those purposes of coal, coke or manufactured fuel, as the case may be, or which appears to them to be a matter to which consideration ought to be given apart from any such representation, and, where action appears to them to be requisite as to any such matter, of notifying their conclusions to the Minister ;
- (b) of considering, and reporting to the Minister on, any such matter which may be referred to them by the Minister.
- (4) The Domestic Coal Consumers' Council shall be charged with the like duties in relation to the sale or supply of coal, coke and manufactured fuel for the purposes mentioned in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of this section.
- (5) On the notification or making to the Minister by either of the said councils of their conclusions or report on any matter, if it appears to him, after consultation with the Board, that a defect is disclosed in the Board's general arrangements for the production, sale or supply of coal, coke or manufactured fuel, as the case may be, he may give to the Board such directions as he may think requisite for remedying the defect, and the Board shall give effect to any such directions.
- (6) The said councils shall be furnished by the Minister with such clerks, officers and staff as appear to him, with the concurrence of the Treasury as to numbers, to be requisite for the proper discharge of their functions, and the Minister shall pay to the members of the said councils such allowances, and to the clerks, officers and staff of the said councils such remuneration and allowances, as he may with the approval of the Treasury determine, and shall pay such expenses incurred by the said councils as he may so determine.
- (7) Provision may be made by regulations for or in connection with any such matters in relation to the said consumers,' councils as are mentioned in subsection (7) of section two of this Act in relation to the Board, and for the appointment of a chairman of each of the said councils, with or without provision for another to act in his place, and, subject to the provisions of any such regulations, the said councils shall have power to regulate their own procedure.
- (8) Each of the said councils shall make an annual report to the Minister, and the Minister shall lay the reports before each House of Parliament.
- (9) A regional industrial coal consumers' council or a regional domestic coal consumers' council may be appointed by the Minister for any prescribed locality for which such appointment appears to him to be expedient, whether in consequence of or apart from a recommendation in that behalf of the Industrial Council or the Domestic Council, as the case may be, established under subsection (1) of this section, and provision may be made by regulations for the dissolution of a regional council appointed for any locality if it appears to the Minister that such a council is no longer needed for that locality, or for the variation of the locality for which such a council is to act.
- (10) Where there is a regional council for any locality, then, as regards consumers and sale or supply in that locality, the regional council shall be charged with the performance of such of the duties imposed on the Industrial Council or the Domestic Council, as the case may be, by subsection (3) or (4) of this section as may be prescribed, and provision may be made by regulations as to the regional council's reporting to the Industrial Council or the Domestic Council, as the case may be, established under subsection (1) of this section or direct to the Minister, and generally as to the relations between the regional council and the said Industrial Council or Domestic Council.

- (11) Subsections (2), (6) and (7) of this section shall apply to a regional council as they apply to the Industrial Council or the Domestic Council, as the case may be, established under subsection (1) of this section, with the substitution of references to consumers in the locality for which the regional council is to act and to sale or supply therein for references to consumers and to sale or supply generally, and subsection (5) of this section shall apply on the notification or making direct to the Minister of conclusions or a report of a regional council.
- (12) In this section the expression " manufactured fuel " means any manufactured fuel (including carbonised briquettes and avoids) of which coal or coke is the principal constituent.