
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1956 No. 1943

**The Stratified Ironstone, Shale and Fireclay
Mines (Explosives) Regulations 1956**

PART III

Storage, issue and conveyance of explosive and detonators

4.—(1) The manager of a mine shall not permit any explosive, detonator or safety fuse to be stored thereat except in a place on the surface appointed by him for the purpose (hereinafter referred to as “an explosives store”).

(2) The manager of every mine in which explosives are used shall appoint at least one place, which shall be situate conveniently near the top of each shaft or outlet normally used by workmen, as a place for the deposit of explosives and detonators brought out of the mine, and may appoint a place (other than an explosives store) for the issue thereof.

(3) The manager of every mine in which explosives are used shall appoint such number of competent persons and make such arrangements as to secure that a competent person is in charge of each explosives store and place appointed for the purposes of the last preceding paragraph whenever explosives or detonators are to be issued or returned thereat.

5. No person shall cap safety fuse with a detonator at any place at a mine except at a workshop used in connection with an explosives store in pursuance of section forty-seven of the Explosives Act, 1875.

Control of issue of detonators

6.—(1) All detonators at an explosives store or at a place appointed in pursuance of paragraph (2) of regulation four shall be in the sole charge of the manager of the mine except—

- (a) during a shift for which the manager has appointed a competent person to have charge of that store or place;
- (b) during any other period, in any case in which there is no means of entry to that store or place otherwise than through a doorway or doorways having a door or doors which can be securely locked and the manager has made such arrangements as to secure that that door is or those doors are kept securely locked throughout that period.

(2) No person shall be in possession of any detonator at any place at a mine other than an explosives store or a place appointed for the storage, issue or deposit of explosives except a shot firer to whom the detonator has been issued for use or a person authorised in writing by the manager of the mine so to be and save as aforesaid no person shall issue or take any detonator from such a store or place.

Conveyance and care of detonators

7.—(1) No person shall take any detonator below ground in a mine except in a securely locked detonator case provided by the owner of the mine:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall prevent a primer cartridge fitted with a detonator being taken into a shaft in the course of being sunk for use therein.

(2) No person shall put a detonator into a detonator case if it would then contain a delay detonator as well as a detonator which is not a delay detonator.

(3) No person shall put a delay detonator into a detonator case unless the detonator is clearly marked with a number which indicates the period of delay.

(4) The manager of every mine in which detonators are used shall ensure that no detonator case is issued for use in the mine unless it is so constructed and maintained that when the case is closed it is impossible for any detonator or the leads of any detonator contained in the case to touch any metal part thereof which is exposed outside the case or is in contact with any other metal part so exposed.

8.—(1) Any shot firer to whom a detonator case has been issued shall—

- (a) retain the key of the case in his own possession throughout the period during which he is on duty;
- (b) ensure that, apart from any check sheet for recording shots fired by him, nothing except detonators is in it;
- (c) ensure that at any time at which it is not on his person it is in a safe place and, unless he remains in the immediate vicinity, in a securely locked box; and
- (d) if at the end of his period of duty it contains any detonator, return it to the appropriate place on the surface appointed for the storage or deposit of explosives.

(2) No shot firer shall remove a detonator from a detonator case unless it is required immediately for charging a shot hole.

Conveyance and care of explosives

9. No person shall take any explosive below ground in any mine unless it is in the form of a cartridge.

10.—(1) Except in pursuance of the next following regulation, no person shall take any explosive below ground in any mine unless it is in a closed canister stoutly constructed and containing not more than five pounds of explosive:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall prevent a primer cartridge fitted with a detonator being taken into a shaft in the course of being sunk for use therein.

(2) No person shall put anything other than explosives into a canister provided for the purpose of taking explosives below ground in a mine.

(3) Every person having any canister of explosives in his possession or control shall ensure that it is not deposited at any time elsewhere than in a place of safety, and in particular if at the end of his period of duty the canister contains any explosive shall return it to the appropriate place on the surface appointed for the storage or deposit of explosives or, if he received it from a reserve station established for the purposes of a scheme of transit, to that reserve station or to a person and at a place appointed by the manager for the purposes of that scheme.

(4) No person below ground shall unlock or open any canister of explosives or take any explosive from any canister unless the shot firer or person appointed to fire shots by fuse (as the case may be) concerned requires to check the quantity of the explosives or the explosive is required immediately

for charging a shot hole or the act in question has been authorised by a deputy or other official of the mine.

Conveyance of explosives in bulk

11.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this regulation the manager of any mine may as respects that mine or any part thereof make a scheme for the conveyance of explosives in bulk (herein referred to as “a scheme of transit”) whereby explosives packed at an explosives store in securely locked canisters of any size may be conveyed in a special carriage to one or more reserve stations in that mine or part of the mine or to the working face.

(2) Every scheme of transit shall contain provisions for securing safety with respect to each of the following matters—

- (a) the location, construction and marking of each reserve station and the custody of the keys thereof;
- (b) the design and construction of the special carriage;
- (c) supervision of and precautions to be taken during the transit of the carriage;
- (d) supervision of any explosives at a reserve station;
- (e) if explosives are to be taken in bulk to any working face, the manner of so doing;
- (f) the maximum quantity of explosives to be at any reserve station at any time;
- (g) the control of the issue of explosives from any reserve station;
- (h) the return of explosives to a reserve station or other place appointed by the manager.

(3) Every scheme of transit shall contain provisions to ensure that—

- (a) the quantity of explosives conveyed into the mine in pursuance thereof at any time together with any quantity so conveyed already in the mine does not exceed the quantity estimated to be required for use during the period of twenty-four hours next following;
- (b) except in pursuance of a provision of the scheme, no explosive shall while being conveyed in bulk be taken nearer to a working face (not being only a place in a road at which ripping or work of repair is in progress) than the reserve station nearest to that face.

(4) A scheme of transit may impose duties and prohibitions on persons employed at the mine and those persons shall comply therewith. It shall be the duty of the manager of the mine to secure that the provisions of any scheme of transit for that mine are executed and enforced.

(5) If an inspector is of opinion with respect to a scheme of transit that the provisions contained therein in pursuance of paragraph (2) of this regulation are not adequate to secure safety, he may serve on the manager of the mine a notice stating that he is of that opinion, specifying the nature of the provision which in his opinion ought to be made and requiring the manager to amend the scheme accordingly, and any such notice shall, if it is so specified therein, become operative forthwith.

(6) The provisions of Part XV of the Act with respect to references upon notices served by inspectors shall apply to a notice served under the last preceding paragraph, and the relevant ground of objection shall be that the provisions contained in the scheme of transit in pursuance of paragraph (2) of this regulation are adequate to secure safety.

(7) The person in charge of the explosives at any reserve station shall ensure that any explosives remaining thereat at the end of his period of duty are either delivered by him to a person appointed to have charge of them during the immediately following shift or are returned to the explosives store.

(8) The manager of every mine at which a scheme of transit is in operation shall ensure that a copy thereof is provided in the covered accommodation provided in pursuance of section one hundred and thirty-five of the Act and that a copy thereof is supplied to each deputy, shot firer and person appointed to fire shots by fuse employed at the mine.