

**Energy Bulletins**

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In reply to many enquiries since the inception of the Office of Energy (OOE) on 1 January 1995 we have prepared the following question and answer segment.

We trust that this will be of benefit to you. Please contact us if you require further assistance.

**Q.**Now that SECWA no longer exists, can I still use the existing SECWA Preliminary Notices and Notices of Completion?

**A.**Yes. However the OOE will shortly be introducing new notices that are designed to be used by all the Western Australian supply authorities. A further Energy Bulletin will advise on the new notices and when the existing supply authority notices (eg SECWA) will no longer be accepted.

**Q.**Where do I report instances of electrical shock?

**A.**To the relevant supply authority and the OOE.

The OOE may be contacted as follows:

Office Hours (8.00 am to 5.00 pm)

Ph:(09) 422 5262

After HoursPh: (09) 482 4794

**Note:** Instances of electric shock must also be reported to the employer or employer's representative (eg supervisor).

**Q.**Who do I contact to obtain a ruling in relation to a consumers' electrical installation?

**A.**The relevant supply authority (eg. in the South West of Western Australia Western Power).

**Q.**If I have a question in regard to the application of Australian Standards (eg AS 3000) who do I contact?

**A.**In the first instance you need to contact an Electrical Inspector from the

relevant supply authority.

**Q.**Who carries out mine site electrical inspections?

**A.**The OOE's Electrical Inspectors carry out this function for the Department of Minerals & Energy.

**Q.**Are submissions required for high voltage installations?

**A.**Yes. If the installation is to be connected to a supply authority's system then the submission is to be sent to the relevant supply authority.

For installations that are supplied from their own generating plant the submissions are to be directed to the OOE.

**Q.**What is the function of the Electrical Licensing Board?

**A.**The primary function of the Board is to determine the competence and suitability of applicants for, and holders of, electrical licences and advising the Minister and the Director of Energy Safety on matters affecting electrical licences.

**Q.**Who are the members of the Electrical Licensing Board?

**A.**

- **Mr Jeff Tranter**  
Chairman
- **Mr Graeme Haynes**  
nominated by the AEEF and E Union (ETU)
- **Mr Tom Lyons**  
nominated by the WA Department of Training
- **Mr Jim Jarvis**  
nominated by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Chamber of Mines and Energy
- **Mr Ross Campbell**  
nominated by the Electrical Contractors Assoc. of WA
- **Mr Mark Golesworthy**  
nominated by the Metals and Engineering Workers' Union
- **Mr Robert Briggs**

nominated by the OOE

**Q.**What action may the Electrical Licensing Board take with errant licensees?

**A.** They may

- require the licensee to explain their conduct in writing or in person before the Board
- conduct a disciplinary hearing
- impose a condition on or cancel a person's licence
- require persons to undergo an examination or assessment
- advertise details of disciplinary actions

**Q.**What services does the Licensing Office provide?

**A.**It provides the secretariat for Electrical Licensing Board and:

- develops electrical and gas licensing policy and procedures
- advises on licence applications
- processes licence applications
- maintains the register of gas and electrical licences
- issues information and saleable publications (including some Australian Standards)

**Q.**Do I need to have electrical appliances approved?

**A.**Yes, electrical appliances that are prescribed pursuant to the Electricity Act 1945 must be approved by the Director of Energy Safety (OOE) prior to sale or hire.

Prescribed articles include domestic appliances, plugs and sockets, electric hand tools and electrical equipment used generally.

**Q.**How can I obtain approval for an electrical appliance?

**A.**Applications for approval must be submitted to the OOE.

The OOE will process the application and attached test certificate, and if accepted will issue an **Approval Certificate** valid for five years.

In Western Australia, Western Power offers a wide range of testing services for electrical appliances.

## **Electrical Installations**

### **Restricted Zones - Kitchen Sinks**

Large kitchen sink units are becoming increasingly popular in modern houses.

AS 3000 - 1991 Clause 6.4.2(e) requires that electrical equipment must not be installed in restricted zones near sinks, hand basins or similar fixed water containers.

Where **large sink units exceeding 20 litres capacity** are fitted, the restricted zone must be considered under clause 6.4.2(f), ie electrical equipment must not be installed within the space contained by the vertical planes 0.5 m from the boundaries of the water container and extending from the floor to a horizontal plane 1 m above the water container.

### **W.A. Electrical Requirements**

Electrical Industry Bulletin #28 (Nov 1994) included amended provisions for main switches for installations supplied from a substation (Amendment SER 1/94).

In response to enquiries, it is advised that main switch fuses greater than 250A can only be used in accordance with Table 2.6 when permitted under Clause 2.8.1.1 of the W.A. Electrical Requirements.

### **Aerial Bundled Cables - Customer Connections**

Aerial Bundled Cables (ABC) are being installed by supply authorities as low voltage service cable in some areas.

Details of requirements for customer connections to ABC are available from the supply authorities. It is intended that further information on this subject will be provided in a future issue of the Energy Bulletin.

## **Office of Energy**

### **Technical and Safety Division**

- Location:  
20 Southport Street, Leederville (Perth)  
Western Australia 6007  
Telephone:(09) 422 5200  
Facsimile:(09) 422 5222

### **Technical Services Branch (Electrical)**

Ph: (09) 422 5200  
Fax: (09) 422 5244

**Regulatory Services Branch (Licensing)**

Ph: (09) 422 5282  
Fax: (09) 422 5222

**Electrical Inspection Branch**

Ph: (09) 422 5262  
Fax: (09) 422 5222

**Electrical Inspection Branch - Country Offices**

- **Collie/Bunbury**  
C/- Department of Minerals & Energy Building  
66 Wittenoom Street Collie  
PO Box 500 Collie WA 6225  
Ph: (097) 34 1222  
Fax: (097) 341606
- **Geraldton**  
Geraldton Shopping Centre  
Suite 2 8 Chapman Road Geraldton  
PO Box 2126 Geraldton WA 6531  
Ph: (099) 64 5133  
Fax: (099) 64 5149
- **Kalgoorlie**  
C/- Department of Minerals & Energy Building  
48-52 Brookman Street Kalgoorlie  
PO Box 671 Kalgoorlie WA 6430  
Ph: (090) 21 9418  
Fax: (090) 21 3612
- **Karratha \***  
C/- Department of Minerals & Energy  
SGIO Building  
Hedland Place Karratha  
PO Box 518 Karratha WA 6714  
Ph: (091) 86 8276  
Fax: (091) 86 8251

\* Staffed on a part-time basis at present, until permanent appointment is made. Refer to Perth Office until further notice.

**Electricity Supply Authorities**

- **BHP Iron Ore - Newman**

PO Box 655, Newman WA  
Ph:(091) 75 1511  
Fax:(091) 75 2919

- **Hamersley Iron**  
PO Box 73, Dampier WA  
Ph:(091) 43 5600  
Fax:(091) 43 5646
- **Newcrest Mining**  
Telfer WA  
Ph:(091) 58 6200  
Fax:(091) 79 8721
- **Robe River Iron Associates**  
PO Box 21, Wickham WA  
Ph:(091) 59 2150  
Fax:(091) 59 2184
- **Rottneest Island Authority**  
PO Box 418, West Perth WA  
Ph:(09) 222 5600  
Fax(09) 321 1665
- **Western Mining Corporation**  
PO Box 22, Leinster WA  
Ph:(090) 37 8500  
Fax:(090) 37 8503
- **Western Power Corporation**  
365 Wellington Street  
PERTH WA 6000  
Ph:(09) 326 4911  
Fax:(09) 326 4595

#### **Electrical Installation Inspectors - (Western Power)**

Western Power has advised that contact may be made with their Electrical Installation Inspectors as follows:

- **Supervising Electrical Inspector (North)**  
Ph: (09) 427 4460 Fax: (09) 427 4461
- **Supervising Electrical Inspector (South)**  
Ph: (09) 427 4429 Fax: (09) 427 4461
- **Perth District Office**  
Ph: (09) 427 4425 Fax: (09) 427 4461
- **Stirling District Office**  
Ph: (09) 441 1412 Fax: (09) 344 1717
- **Wanneroo District Office**

Ph: (09) 302 0555 Fax: (09) 302 0516

- **Swan District Office**  
Ph: (09) 250 9333 Fax: (09) 250 1357
- **Geraldton District Office**  
Ph: (099) 21 0333 Fax: (099) 21 4857
- **Fremantle District Office**  
Ph: (09) 411 7575 Fax: (09) 411 755
- **Rockingham District Office**  
Ph: (09) 592 0444 Fax: (09) 527 8843
- **Mandurah District Office**  
Ph: (09) 581 2773 Fax: (09) 581 1511
- **Kelmscott District Office**  
Ph: (09) 497 0277 Fax: (09) 399 7452
- **Forrestfield District Office**  
Ph: (09) 359 9299 Fax: (09) 359 9298
- **Bunbury District Office**  
Ph: (097) 25 5333 Fax: (097) 25 5354
- **Albany District Office**  
Ph: (098) 41 0888 Fax: (098) 41 0810

\* Located at Perth District Office, 18 Richmond Street, North Perth WA.