

SI 75/1965  
SI 28/1966  
SI 39/1976

## ELECTRICITY (NEW PROVIDENCE) RULES

(SECTION 58)

*[Commencement 1st April, 1985]*

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| Title            | <p><b>1.</b> These Rules may be cited as the Electricity (New Providence) Rules and shall apply throughout the Island of New Providence only.</p>  |
| Interpretation   | <p><b>2.</b> (1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —</p> <p>“area of supply” means the whole of New Providence including Paradise Island;</p> <p>“contractor” means an electrical contractor holding a general licence issued under these Rules;</p> <p>“Corporation” means the Bahamas Electricity Corporation;</p> <p>“Electrical Code” means Part I of the Canadian Electrical Code of the Canadian Standards Association for the time being in force and as amended from time to time;</p> <p>“electrician” means a person holding a restricted licence issued under these Rules;</p> <p>“unit” means a unit of electrical energy equal to one kilowatt hour.</p> <p>(2) Any technical term or expression used in these Rules and not otherwise defined shall have the meaning given to it by the Electrical Code or failing this by the “Glossary of terms used in electrical engineering” issued by the British Standards institution.</p> |
| System of supply | <p><b>3.</b> (1) Electricity shall be supplied within the area of supply at the following declared voltages only subject as hereinafter provided —</p> <p>(a) high voltage distribution at 11,000 volts, 7,200 volts and 2,400 volts, three-phase, 60 cycles;</p> <p>(b) low voltage distribution at three-phase, 60 cycles, 115/200 volts and 120/208 volts, 4-wire (neutral wire earthed) and single phase 115/230 volts and 120/244 volts, 3-wire, 60 cycles according to area:</p>   |

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Provided that part of the Lyford Cay Development presently supplied at 240/415 volts, three-phase, 4-wire, with single phase 120 volts voltage from dry-core transformers may continue to be so supplied;

- (c) the above declared voltages shall be subject to a variation of 6% above and below the declared voltages and the above declared frequency shall be subject to a 2½% variation above and below the declared frequency.
- (2) The following provisions shall apply to the use of motors, namely —
- (a) single phase, supply at 115 or 120 volts may be used for motors not exceeding 2 h.p.;
  - (b) single phase, supply at 200, 208, 230 or 240 volts may be used for motors not exceeding 3 h.p.;
  - (c) three-phase, supply at 200 or 208 volts may be used or supply direct from the high voltage distribution system may be specially arranged;
  - (d) efficient starting switches or other appliances shall be provided in all motor installations so as to ensure minimum voltage fluctuations;
  - (e) starting arrangements for motors exceeding 3 h.p. are subject to approval by the Corporation in each case;
  - (f) where installation of motors liable to cause radio interference is proposed, consumers shall consult the Corporation prior to such installation and shall have due regard to the requirements of the Department of Telecommunications.

4. (1) The Corporation is hereby declared to be the competent authority for the issue of licences to all persons before they may be entrusted with the construction, erection, repair or alteration of any installation within the area of supply.

Contractors and electricians

(2) Only persons holding valid licences issued by the Corporation shall be permitted to undertake electrical installation work in the area of supply and any other person performing such work shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) Applications for licences shall be submitted in writing to the Corporation and licences shall be issued in one or other of the forms set out in the Schedule to these Rules. Licences shall be issued for a period of twelve

Schedule

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months subject to a probationary period of six months upon the first issue of any licence and shall require to be renewed on or before the 1st day of January in each and every succeeding year upon application for this purpose.

*SI 39/1970, r 2*

(4) A fee of ten dollars shall be paid on the issue and renewal of each licence.

(5) Every licence shall be exhibited at the usual place of business of the licensee.

Categories of  
licences

**5.** (1) The following categories of licences may be issued by the Corporation —

(a) general —

(i) single phase;

(ii) three phase (including single phase);

(b) restricted.

(2) A general licence issued to a contractor shall permit the holder to carry out either single phase or single phase and three phase installations anywhere in the area of supply.

(3) A restricted licence issued to an electrician shall permit the holder to carry out single phase or three phase installations in a specified building or buildings or class of buildings or in a specified area or areas or during a specified period only.

(4) Every applicant for a licence shall first satisfy the Corporation that he is not less than 21 years of age and that he is a fit and proper person satisfactorily to conduct the business of an electrical contractor and shall produce to the Corporation satisfactory evidence of proficiency in electrical installation work.

(5) The Corporation may in its discretion cancel or refuse to renew the licence of any holder who fails, in the opinion of the Corporation, to show or maintain the standard or proficiency required or who is shown to have disregarded the requirements of these Rules or of the Electrical Code:

Provided that any person aggrieved by the decision of the Corporation may appeal within fourteen days to the Minister for Electricity whose decision shall be final.

6. Subject to the provisions of these Rules, the essential requirements and minimum standards for the installation and maintenance of electrical equipment connected to the supply system of the Corporation shall be as set out in the Electrical Code, in so far as the Electrical Code is not inconsistent with these Rules or any further Rules from time to time made by the Minister amending or replacing the same.

Electrical wiring regulations.

7. (1) It shall be the duty of every contractor or electrician responsible for an installation within the area of supply to arrange for an inspection and test of every such installation by the Corporation in accordance with this rule.

Installation tests and inspections.

(2) No new installation or addition to or alteration of an existing installation shall be connected to the electricity supply until it has been inspected, tested and approved by a duly authorised officer of the Corporation excepting only that in the case of additions not exceeding 15 ampères per line, such inspection and test may be waived by the Corporation in its discretion.

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(3) An inspection fee of twenty-five dollars shall be charged and shall be payable by the contractor or electrician concerned where any installation fails to satisfy the requirements of these Rules upon initial inspection and test and where an additional inspection is thereby rendered necessary.

SI 39/1970, r 3

(4) The Corporation shall not be responsible for delay in connecting the installation of any consumer to the electricity supply which results from the failure of such installation to pass its inspection or test.

8. Any existing installation which is found upon test or inspection by the Corporation not to conform to the requirements of these Rules or of the Electrical Code may be disconnected and shall remain disconnected until all defects have been remedied to the satisfaction of the Corporation.

Defective installation.

9. The Corporation shall appoint fit and proper persons to inspect installations, meters, fittings, service lines or other electrical equipment situated upon private property and shall provide such persons with a suitable badge by which they may be identified as authorised inspectors.

Inspectors.

Penalty

**10.** Any person who commits an offence against these Rules or who causes or permits any other person to commit any such offence for which no other penalty is provided by the Electricity Act shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.

*5 cf 1987, s 2*

**SCHEDULE (Rule 4(3))**

**BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY CORPORATION**

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR’S LICENCE**

**GENERAL**

This is to certify that a licence to carry out.....  
..... electrical installations has been  
issued by the Corporation to..... for the  
year commencing 1st January 19.....

.....  
General Manager  
Bahamas Electricity Corporation.

**BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY CORPORATION**

**ELECTRICIAN’S LICENCE**

**RESTRICTED**

This is to certify that a licence to carry out .....  
.....electrical installations  
.....  
has been issued by the Corporation to .....  
.....for the year commencing 1st January, 19 .....

.....  
General Manager  
Bahamas Electricity Corporation.