

EAST AFR. PROT

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REC
4 JUL 1918
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SEASIAL
orders

1918

July

Electric Power Order 1918

Gives list of modifications in provisions
which considers would facilitate appln
of elect power to equipment of field stations

check with the Dept
(in line with aft. let.)

6/24/18



Vertical text on the left margin, possibly a file number or reference.

Subsequent Paper.

0223

3898 Victoria

TELEGRAMS: VICTORIA LONDON
TELEPHONE: 2200-2201 LONDON

EDW. W. COWAN,
MINISTER
OF JUSTICE

121,
3898 VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON S.W.1.

3rd July 1919.

His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street.

523

SIR,

B. E. A. ELECTRIC POWER ORDINANCE 1919.

BRITISH EAST AFRICAN SISAL PRODUCERS LONDON

COMMITTEE'S MEMORANDUM

Following my call yesterday afternoon when Mr. Boltonley and Mr. Bushe kindly went through with me the points of criticism of the Ordinance raised by the above Committee, I should like to confirm that according to our experience of the conditions in the country the following modifications in the provisions of the Ordinance would greatly facilitate the progressive application of electric power to the requirements of the Plantations:-

That the drafting of Section No. 3 should be altered to make it quite clear that single users of private installations do not come under the provisions of the Ordinance.

That a group of single users combining for the purpose of erecting an Electric Power Installation for their joint use should not come under the provisions of the Ordinance provided that the cost of the supply is shared equally in proportion to the cost of supplying each consumer.

That a group of single users combining for the purpose of erecting an Electric Power Installation for their joint use shall not come under the provisions of the Ordinance provided that the total power supplied to the consumers does not exceed 500 electrical horse power in the aggregate.

NOTE. This suggested condition (No. 3) is I think much more important to the Plantation owners than No. 2. In actual practice it is generally one Estate which for financial or other reasons is in a position to put down the plant and under such circumstances it follows that a profit on the Capital employed must be provided for, otherwise the system cannot be adopted as an owner will take the trouble to provide capital and work an installation for others if no profit is to accrue to him for doing so.

Other consumers may contribute towards the cost, but that each consumer must contribute his proportionate share is often a quite unsuitable arrangement to the condition in the Country.

Apart from Factory Act regulations relief from which is not sought, conditions Nos. 2 and 3 apply to this country and as far as I know to all other Countries.

It is only in cases of Public supply concerns or the construction of works on property belonging to outsiders or to the Crown that the Government interferes. It is difficult to believe that it is intended to increase the scope of Government control in B.E.A. as compared with that of the Governments of other Countries.

A limit of 500 Horse Power was suggested yesterday, but I trust that if the principle is accepted consideration will be given to increasing this limit to 750 or 1 00 H. . . I think doing so would be an advantage to the country.

That conformance with the Standards of the British Engineering Standards Committee's specifications should not be compulsory.

NOTE.

The provision requiring conformance appears to us to be impossible practically to realise, and in any case attempting to conform must entail great expense and delay. The industrialised countries it seems to us must give the lead in this matter and outlying countries will gradually follow suit as facilities for obtaining machinery in conformance with the British Engineering Committee's specifications increases.

I know of no Act of Parliament which enforces this condition in the United Kingdom.

That small water power installations, up to say 100 Electrical Horse Power, shall not be compelled to instal 3 phase alternating current plant.

NOTE.

Such a condition, if I read the Ordinance correctly in regard to its compulsory, would prove a great hindrance to the utilization of small water powers.

That the methods of charging for Electrical energy are not made in any way more restrictive than the regulations now in force in the United Kingdom.

(7) (-7.) That vested interests be fully protected both as regards existing Works and extensions which form an integral part of the original plan.

NOTE. This is, immediately, the most important condition to us. The Installations already established have been established without any knowledge of the conditions of this Ordinance. Great care has been taken in the legislation of this Country to protect as far as possible all vested interests in new Bills and we cannot believe that it is intended to put the existing installations in B.E.A. to great expense, the incurring of which they could not possibly have foreseen when their Works were planned.

On behalf of the large plantation interests I am representing in writing this letter, I beg that most serious and exhaustive consideration be given to the above points. I feel personally, sincerely convinced that if the Ordinance is approved unaltered the application of electrical energy to the needs of the Protectorate will be seriously retarded.

Yours faithfully,

Castro

ERC, V.

P. S. During the war many plantation owners were absent on service. They have not in consequence had an opportunity of studying its provisions.

23/19

DRAFT.

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to be read by Mr. ...

[Handwritten signature]

7th July, 1919

Sir

I have had the ...

4 July
5 July

Yours letter of the 3rd July
referring to the ...
Power ... 1918

SECRET