

ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND GAS  
EMERGENCY ACT.

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Act No. 2, 1917.

An Act to provide for the control of the supply, consumption, and use of electricity and gas; to suspend the operation of certain provisions of the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Act, the Gas Act, 1912, and the Local Government Act, 1903; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto. [Assented to, 18th August, 1917.]

George V,  
No. 2.

**B**E it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

**1.** This Act may be cited as the "Electric Lighting and Gas Emergency Act, 1917." Short title.

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PART I.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

**2.** In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires, Definitions. "board" means the board appointed under this Part, and "electricity" means electricity or electric current generated by the council. This Part shall be construed with the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Act, hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act.

**3.**

**Electric Lighting and Gas Emergency Act.**

**George V,  
No. 2.**  
Constitution  
and powers  
of board.

**3.** A board consisting of the Lord Mayor and the vice-chairmen of the four standing committees of the council, for the time being, is hereby constituted to exercise the powers and discharge the duties conferred or imposed on it by this Part.

The board may appoint necessary officers and by resolution provide for the summoning, quorum, and conduct of its meetings, and for publication of its decisions and notifications.

Power of  
council to  
refuse to  
supply  
electricity.

**4.** Notwithstanding any agreement or contract entered into by the council with any persons under which the council has covenanted or agreed to supply electricity, the council may upon notification by the board as hereinafter provided refuse to supply or discontinue the supply of electricity either wholly or partially or for any time to any or all such persons without being liable for any costs, damages, or compensation whatever to any person consequent upon such refusal or discontinuance of supply.

Publication  
of notice.

**5.** (1) The board may from time to time publish as hereinafter provided notifications prohibiting the consumption or use of electricity other than by the persons or classes of persons, or for the purposes or periods or subject to the conditions therein mentioned, and may revoke or amend any such notification.

Penalty.

If any person consumes or uses electricity or permits or suffers electricity to be consumed or used in contravention of any such notification, or fails to comply with any condition in such notification, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five hundred pounds.

Disconnec-  
tion of  
service.

(2) The council may, without notice, disconnect the service of electricity the consumption or use of which is prohibited by notification under this section, or in respect of which any condition imposed in such notification has not been complied with.

Uses of elec-  
tricity to be  
authorised in  
the first  
instance.

**6.** In the first instance and for so long as the board may deem advisable, it shall in such notification authorise the consumption and use of electricity upon the same terms and conditions as now exist by the persons carrying on the following functions or enterprises, namely—water supply services, public lighting, cold storage, ice making, flour milling, butchering, baking, dairy produce and fish distribution, and such other functions

functions or enterprises the stoppage of which might in **George V,**  
the opinion of the board tend to endanger human life or **No. 2.**  
cause serious bodily injury.

**7.** All notifications by the board shall be published <sup>Publication</sup>  
in the Gazette and posted in some conspicuous place <sup>of notifica-</sup>  
at the Town Hall, Sydney. <sup>tions.</sup>

**8.** The operation of section twenty-six of the <sup>Suspension of</sup>  
Principal Act, so far as the same is inconsistent <sup>provisions of</sup>  
with the provisions of this Act, and the operation of <sup>Principal</sup>  
section twenty-seven of the same Act, are hereby <sup>Act.</sup>  
suspended during such time as this Act is in force.

**9.** This Part shall, if the Governor so declares by <sup>Application.</sup>  
proclamation in the Gazette, extend and apply, mutatis  
mutandis, to any municipal council or any incorporated  
company which supplies electricity; in which case the  
board shall, with regard to such supply by such council  
or company, consist of five persons appointed by the  
Governor.

## PART II.

### GAS.

**10.** Notwithstanding any agreement or contract <sup>Power of</sup>  
entered into by a gas company with any persons under <sup>company to</sup>  
which it has covenanted or agreed to supply gas, the <sup>refuse to</sup>  
company may upon notification by the board as hereinafter <sup>supply gas.</sup>  
provided refuse to supply or discontinue the supply of gas  
either wholly or partially or for any time to any or all  
such persons without being liable for any costs, damages,  
or compensation whatever to any person consequent  
upon such refusal or discontinuance of supply.

In the event of the supply of gas to be supplied by  
any gas company under any contract to or for street or  
public lamps in any municipality or shire being reduced  
below the quantity or period contracted for such reduction  
in supply shall not be regarded as a breach of any such  
contract, and shall not vitiate or affect such contract,  
but the amount payable to the gas company supplying  
such gas shall be reduced during such period of reduc-  
tion by such an amount as shall be agreed upon between  
the council affected by such reduction and the gas  
company, and failing any such agreement as shall be  
decided by the board.

- George V,  
No. 2.** **11.** (1) The Governor may appoint a board of five persons.
- Appointment of board.** The board may appoint necessary officers and by resolution provide for the summoning, quorum, and conduct of its meetings, and for publication of its decisions and notifications.
- Publication of notice.** Such board may from time to time publish as hereinafter provided notifications prohibiting the consumption or use of gas other than by the persons or classes of persons, or for the purposes or periods or subject to the conditions therein mentioned, and may revoke or amend any such notification.
- Penalty.** If any person consumes or uses gas or permits or suffers gas to be consumed or used in contravention of any such notification, or fails to comply with any condition in such notification, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five hundred pounds.
- Disconnection of service.** (2) The gas company may, without notice, disconnect the service of gas the consumption or use of which is prohibited by notification under this section, or in respect of which any condition imposed in such notification has not been complied with.
- (3) Any such notification shall be published in the Gazette.
- Suspension of operation of certain provisions of Gas Act.** **12.** The board may, by notification, suspend the operation of the Gas Act, 1912, and Ordinance No. 53 under the Local Government Act, 1906, in whole or in part and in respect of any gas company or municipal or other body or person supplying gas so far as such Act and such ordinance relate to the quality, illuminating power, heating power, purity, and pressure of gas.
- Any such notification may be withdrawn by a further notification made by the board to that effect, and thereafter such suspension shall be revoked.
- Act to bind Crown.** **13.** This Act shall bind the Crown.
- Duration of Act.** **14.** This Act shall remain in force until the Governor by proclamation in the Gazette declares that the necessity for the same has ceased to exist, whereupon this Act shall be deemed to be repealed as from the date of such proclamation.