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**1966 No. 881**

**MINES AND QUARRIES**

**The Coal and Other Mines (Support) Regulations 1966**

<i>Made</i>	- - -	19th July 1966
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		29th July 1966
<i>Coming into Operation</i>		1st October 1966

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

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Whereas in pursuance of Part I of Schedule 2 to the Mines and Quarries Act 1954(a) the Minister of Power has published notice of his intention to make the following regulations and has not received any objection to the draft thereof in respect to which he is required to refer the draft regulations for inquiry and report:

Now, therefore, the Minister of Power in pursuance of the powers conferred upon him by sections 49, 54, 141 and 143 of the Mines and Quarries Act 1954 and of all other powers him enabling hereby makes the following regulations:—

PART I

GENERAL

*Commencement and citation*

1. These regulations shall come into operation on the 1st October 1966, and may be cited as the Coal and Other Mines (Support) Regulations 1966.

*Interpretation*

2.—(1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say—

“ the Act ” means the Mines and Quarries Act 1954;

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(a) 2 & 3 Eliz. 2. c. 70.

“ approved ” in relation to a prop, bar or other device to be used for purposes of support, means complying with a specification approved by the Minister of Power for such a prop, bar or device for use at a place where an armoured conveyor is used, and where a provision of these regulations so requires, complying with a specification approved by the Minister for the purpose of that provision, whether or not approved for other purposes of this definition;

“ armoured conveyor ” does not include any conveyor designed to be readily dismantled for the purpose of being moved forward;

“ bar ” includes girder;

“ face working ” in relation to a working face at which supports are systematically withdrawn means all that part of the mine between the face and the front line of the packs, if any, or the last row of supports for the time being maintained whichever is farther from the face and in relation to a working face at which supports are not systematically withdrawn means all that part of the mine between the face and a line parallel to it and twelve feet distant from it;

“ mechanical energy ” has the same meaning as it has for the purposes of the Coal and Other Mines (Mechanics and Electricians) Regulations 1965(a);

“ mine ” has the meaning assigned thereto in regulation 5;

“ powered support ” has the meaning assigned thereto in regulation 16;

“ prop ” includes hydraulic chock and friction chock; and

“ working face ” does not include a place at which the work consists only of ripping or work of repair.

(2) Expressions to which meanings are assigned by the Act or by these regulations shall (unless the contrary intention appears) have the same meanings in any document issued under the provisions of these regulations.

(3) The Interpretation Act 1889(b) shall apply to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

#### *Exemptions*

3. An inspector may by notice served on the manager of any mine exempt that mine or any part thereof from the application of any provision of these regulations if he is satisfied that the safety of persons employed at the mine will not be prejudiced in consequence of the granting of the exemption.

#### *Revocation*

4. The Coal and Other Mines (Support) Regulations 1956(c) are hereby revoked.

## PART II

### APPLICATION

5. These regulations shall apply to every mine of coal, shale or fireclay, and in these regulations “ mine ” means such a mine.

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(a) S.I. 1965/1559 (1965 II, p. 4557).  
(c) S.I. 1956/1763 (1956 I, p. 1289).

(b) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

### PART III

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SETTING OF SUPPORTS

##### *Props*

6.—(1) Any person setting a prop to support the roof or side of any place in a mine shall set it securely and on a proper foundation.

(2) If it appears to any person whose duties include the setting of props in any part of a mine that any prop in that part of the mine has become

(a) broken or defective, he shall forthwith replace that prop; or

(b) unstable, he shall forthwith replace or make stable that prop:

Provided that if such person is unable to comply with the preceding provisions of this paragraph he shall forthwith report the condition of such broken, defective or unstable prop to the person for the time being in charge of that part of the mine.

(3) It shall be the duty of the person for the time being in charge of any part of a mine to take all reasonable steps to ensure that any prop therein which becomes broken or defective is forthwith replaced and that any prop therein which becomes unstable is forthwith replaced or made stable.

##### *Use of lids*

7.—(1) Any person setting a prop in a mine shall insert between the top of the prop and the roof or bar above it, so as to cover the whole of the top of the prop, a suitable wooden lid of adequate thickness, and where there is no bar above the prop the lid shall be of a width not less than the largest dimension of the top of the prop and of a length not less than twice that dimension.

(2) Nothing in the last paragraph shall require the use of a lid above—

(a) a prop set under a wooden bar; or

(b) a prop set under any bar other than a wooden bar, being

(i) an approved prop; and

(ii) a prop which is fitted with an approved friction cap, or which, by means provided with the prop or the bar, engages with the bar under which it is set so that movement of the prop relative to the bar is prevented while it is so engaged; or

(c) a prop set for the purpose of inducing a roof break; or

(d) a rigid steel prop fixed to a girder in any place not in a face working or roadhead; or

(e) a wooden prop set under a corrugated steel bar in any place where the working height does not, or does not generally, exceed two feet six inches; or

(f) an approved prop fitted with an approved bar slide head; or

(g) a prop having a top the smallest dimension of which is not less than nine inches.

##### *Chocks*

8.—(1) Any person building a chock which is to form part of a system of support in a mine shall build it on a proper foundation and make it tight to the roof.

(2) No person shall include as a main member in such a chock timber other than timber which has flat bearing surfaces where it is in contact with any other main member, otherwise than in a chock which is intended to be left in a pack or in the waste.

#### *Packs*

9. Any person building a pack which is to form part of a system of support in a mine shall so far as is practicable make it tight to the roof over its whole area and, wherever a pack is being built by hand or by hand tools, shall build the walls thereof on a proper foundation and fill it with debris.

#### *Arch girders*

10. Every arch girder to be set to support the roof or sides of any place in a mine shall be set on a proper foundation and made tight to the roof and sides of the place and shall be so fixed by ties or struts to its neighbours as to secure and maintain its stability.

### PART IV

#### PROVISIONS RELATING TO SYSTEMATIC SUPPORT AT FACES AND ROADHEADS

##### *Application and interpretation of this part of these regulations*

11.—(1) In this part of these regulations “place”, except where that expression is further expressly limited, means every place in a face working and every place in a roadhead throughout the following distance from the face in that roadhead or, where the road passes beyond a face to which it leads, from that face, that is to say—

- (a) in the case of a roadhead at an advancing face in which the roof is ripped within thirty feet outbye from the face, throughout the distance between the face and such of the following points as is farthest therefrom, that is to say—
  - (i) such ripping or, if there is more than one, such ripping farthest from the face; or
  - (ii) the front line of the last completed roadside pack; or
  - (iii) where the last completed roadside pack is nearer to the face than the last completed pack on the other side of the road, the front line of such last mentioned pack; or
- (b) in the case of such a roadhead in which the roof is not so ripped, throughout the distance of thirty feet outbye from the face; or
- (c) in the case of a roadhead at a retreating face, throughout the width of the face working.

(2) Regulations 12 to 14 shall not apply in relation to any place at which the systematic support of the roof is provided by means of powered supports.

##### *Props at face workings and roadheads where armoured conveyors are used*

12.—(1) At every place where any armoured conveyor is used, not being a place in a roadhead where arch girders are used for the support of the roof, the system of support of the roof shall include the use of props and support rules in relation thereto shall specify the intervals not to be exceeded between adjacent rows of props, between adjacent props in the same row and between the front row of props and the face, which intervals shall be such as to enable regulation 14(2) to be complied with.

(2) At every place where any armoured conveyor is used and persons do not pass or work between such conveyor and the face, otherwise than occasionally or for short periods, not being a place in a mine or part of a mine in respect of which there is in force a direction given by an inspector by notice served on the manager of the mine that this paragraph shall not apply, being a direction given on the grounds referred to in paragraph (8) of this regulation, the intervals specified by the support rules at which props shall be set shall not in the following cases exceed those specified in relation thereto, that is to say—

- (a) the interval between adjacent rows of props shall not exceed three feet six inches;
- (b) the interval between the front row of props and the face shall not exceed six feet six inches;
- (c) where the support rules specify an interval between the front row of props and the face not exceeding six feet, the interval between adjacent props in the same row shall not exceed five feet or a distance equal to seven feet less the interval so specified between adjacent rows of props at that place, whichever is the less; and
- (d) where the support rules specify an interval between the front row of props and the face exceeding six feet, the interval between adjacent props in the same row shall not exceed four feet six inches or a distance equal to six feet six inches less the interval so specified between adjacent rows of props at that place, whichever is the less.

(3) At every place where any armoured conveyor is used and the last preceding paragraph does not apply, the intervals specified by the support rules at which props shall be set shall not in the following cases exceed those specified in relation thereto, that is to say—

- (a) the interval between adjacent rows of props shall not exceed four feet;
- (b) the interval between adjacent props in the same row shall not exceed three feet six inches; and
- (c) the interval between the front row of props and the face shall not exceed three feet:

Provided that support rules may—

- (i) specify that while the conveyor is being advanced the interval between adjacent rows of props for a distance along the face of not more than ninety feet may exceed four feet but shall not exceed seven feet;
- (ii) if the width of any machine used for cutting or loading mineral requires a greater interval than three feet between the front row of props and the face at any place, specify in relation to that place an interval not exceeding three feet six inches.

(4) All props used as part of a system of support specified in compliance with either of the two preceding paragraphs shall be approved props.

(5) In relation to any place where any armoured conveyor is used, and where, by reason of an irregularity in the condition of the floor or roof or in the working height at that place the approved props supplied for use there are ineffective to keep that place secure, support rules may, notwithstanding the last foregoing paragraph, specify the use of props not approved until the condition of the floor or roof or the working height as the case may be enables approved props once more to be used:

Provided that if props not approved are in use pursuant to this paragraph for more than seven days consecutively at any face, notice thereof shall be given by the manager of the mine to the inspector for the district.

(6) At any place where a machine is used which shears mineral to a depth exceeding fifteen inches at a single cut, the props to support the roof exposed at that place by such cut shall be set before the machine is permitted to approach within ninety feet of that place on its next cut.

(7) At any place where a machine is used which cuts and loads mineral and at the same time makes a cut into the face thereby exposed, preparatory to cutting and loading at the next operation of the machine at that place, the distance specified by the support rules pursuant to paragraph (2)(b) of this regulation shall be such that the distance between the front row of props and the back of the cut shall not exceed six feet six inches except over a length of sixty feet from the machine, measured in the direction opposite to the machine's direction of travel.

(8) A direction may be given by an inspector pursuant to paragraph (2) of this regulation on the ground that the system of work at that mine or part of the mine requires men to pass or work between the conveyor referred to in that paragraph and the face to a greater extent than is necessary, or on the ground that precautions which could be taken for securing the safety of such men are not being taken.

(9) The provisions of Part XV of the Act with respect to references upon notices served by inspectors shall apply to a notice containing a direction that paragraph (2) of this regulation shall not apply to a mine or part of a mine and the relevant grounds of objection shall be that the system of work does not expose men to danger or that all practicable precautions are taken for securing their safety.

*Props at face workings and roadheads where armoured conveyors are not used*

13.—(1) At every place not being a place where any armoured conveyor is used or a place in a roadhead where arch girders are used for the support of the roof, the system of support shall include the use of props, and support rules in relation thereto shall specify the intervals not to be exceeded between adjacent rows of props, between adjacent props in the same row and between the front row of props and the face, which intervals shall, in relation to any place to which regulation 14 applies, be such as to enable paragraph (2) of that regulation to be complied with.

(2) The intervals specified pursuant to the last preceding paragraph, in relation to any place at a longwall face or in a roadhead at a longwall face, shall not in the following cases exceed those specified in relation thereto, that is to say—

- (a) the interval between adjacent rows of props shall not exceed four feet, or, in a place in which bars are used not being a place in a roadhead and the interval between adjacent bars in each row does not exceed four feet, six feet;
- (b) the interval between adjacent props in the same row shall not exceed four feet; and
- (c) the interval between the front row of props and the face at any place at which filling or loading has been completed shall not exceed three feet.

(3) The intervals specified pursuant to paragraph (1) of this regulation, in relation to any place at a face other than a longwall face or in a roadhead at a face other than a longwall face, shall not in the following cases exceed those specified in relation thereto, that is to say—

- (a) the interval between props measured in a direction at right angles to the face shall not exceed four feet;
- (b) the interval between the front row of props and the face at any place at which filling or loading has been completed shall not exceed three feet.

*Bars at face workings and roadheads*

14.—(1) At every place where machinery is used for cutting, conveying or loading mineral and at every place in a roadhead not being a place at which arch girders are included in the system of support of the roof, the system of support shall include the use of bars throughout the length and width of that place to be set above every prop therein included in the system of support specified in compliance with either of the last two preceding regulations as the case requires.

(2) The intervals between adjacent bars in the same row shall not exceed four feet, except where the support rules require the front row of bars to be set approximately half a bar's length nearer the face than the last row to have been set and each bar in the front row is set at an approximately equal distance from the bars on either side of it in such last row, and in any such case the intervals between adjacent bars in the same row shall not exceed five feet.

(3) The system of support specified in compliance with the foregoing provisions—

- (a) need not include the use of bars in any place, not being a place in a roadhead, where the working height does not, or does not generally, exceed two feet and where the sum of the interval specified by the support rules between adjacent props in the same row and the interval so specified between adjacent rows of props does not exceed seven feet;
- (b) may permit an interval not exceeding one foot between the ends of bars in adjacent rows in any place where an overcutting machine has been used; and
- (c) need not include the use of bars above props set in any place, not being a place in a roadhead, which is farther from the face than the front line of the packs.

(4) The ends of the bars in the front row shall extend to within one foot, or, where any armoured conveyor is used and persons do not pass or work between such conveyor and the face, otherwise than occasionally or for short periods, and such bars are approved bars, eighteen inches, from the face.

(5) Every bar set in any place shall be supported by at least two props: Provided that where approved coupled bars are used—

- (i) any such bar may be supported by one support only provided it is connected to another such bar similarly supported; and
- (ii) any such bar in the front row may be supported in cantilever.

(6) In any case where support rules permit the use in any place of slide bars every such bar shall be supported by at least two props each of which has an approved bar slide head and gives direct and effective support to the roof at any time when such bar is being slid forward.

*Arch girders in roadheads*

15. Where the system of support of the roof at any place in a roadhead includes the use of arch girders, the support rules with respect to that place shall specify the interval not to be exceeded between adjacent arch girders, which shall not exceed four feet.

*Powered supports*

16.—(1) At any place where the systematic support of the roof is provided by supports which are advanced and set to the roof by mechanical energy (in these regulations referred to as “powered supports”), the support rules shall specify the intervals not to be exceeded between adjacent supports and between the front vertical members of such supports and the face.

(2) At any place where any armoured conveyor is used all powered supports used as part of a system of support specified in compliance with the preceding paragraph shall be approved powered supports.

(3) Powered supports shall not be used as part of a system of support at any place at which any armoured conveyor is used—

(a) if persons pass or work between such conveyor and the face, otherwise than occasionally or for short periods; or

(b) if there is in force a direction in respect of that place given by an inspector by notice served on the manager of the mine that this paragraph shall apply, being a direction given on the grounds referred to in paragraph (9) of this regulation

unless all powered supports so used at that place are approved for the purpose of this paragraph.

(4) In relation to any place where any armoured conveyor is used, and where by reason of an irregularity in the condition of the floor or roof or in the working height at that place the powered supports supplied for use there are ineffective to keep that place secure, support rules may, notwithstanding paragraph (2) of this regulation or anything contained in regulation 12, specify the use of props not approved until the condition of the floor or roof or the working height as the case may be enables approved powered supports once more to be used or approved props to be used:

Provided that if props not approved are in use pursuant to this paragraph for more than seven days consecutively at any face, notice thereof shall be given by the manager of the mine to the inspector for the district.

(5) Any person whose duties include the setting of powered supports shall ensure that any such support when set is secure and if it appears to any such person that any such support is defective he shall forthwith report the condition thereof to the person for the time being in charge of that part of the mine.

(6) It shall be the duty of the person for the time being in charge of any part of a mine to take all reasonable steps to ensure that any powered support at any place therein which becomes defective is as soon as practicable repaired or replaced and that all necessary steps are forthwith taken to ensure that the roof at that place is effectively supported.

(7) At any place where a machine is used which shears mineral to a depth exceeding fifteen inches at a single cut, the powered supports at that place shall be advanced to support the roof exposed at that place by such cut before the machine is permitted to approach within ninety feet of that place on its next cut.

(8) At any place where a machine is used which cuts and loads mineral and at the same time makes a cut into the face thereby exposed, preparatory to cutting and loading at the next operation of that machine at that place, the distance specified by the support rules as not to be exceeded between the front vertical members of the powered supports and the face shall be such that the distance



between such members and the back of the cut shall not exceed six feet six inches except over a length of sixty feet from the machine, measured in the direction opposite to the machine's direction of travel.

(9) A direction may be given by an inspector pursuant to paragraph (3) of this regulation on the ground that the system of work at that mine or part of the mine requires men to pass or work between the conveyor referred to in that paragraph and the face to a greater extent than is necessary, or on the ground that precautions which could be taken for securing the safety of such men are not being taken.

(10) The provisions of Part XV of the Act with respect to references upon notices served by inspectors shall apply to a notice containing a direction that paragraph (3) of this regulation shall not apply to a mine or part of a mine and the relevant grounds of objection shall be that the system of work does not expose men to danger or that all practicable precautions are taken for securing their safety.

#### *Rippings*

17. In any case in which the roof of any roadhead or advancing place is ripped, the support rules shall include, in addition to other provisions required by these regulations to be included therein which may apply to such case—

- (a) provision for the setting of one or more bars or other supports as near as practicable to the ripping lip so as to provide effective support for the roof adjacent to the ripping lip, and where such provision includes the use of bars such rules shall include provision for each such bar to be supported by a prop at either end thereof and if the length of any such bar exceeds four feet, by props at intervals not exceeding four feet throughout the length thereof;
- (b) provision for the roof newly exposed by such ripping to be forthwith effectively supported;
- (c) provision for the face of the ripping to be effectively supported; and
- (d) provision as to the greatest length along the roadhead or advancing place in which the roof may be ripped at any one stage before supports are set to make the roof exposed by such ripping secure.

#### *Temporary supports*

18.—(1) At any place where any armoured conveyor is used and persons do not pass or work between such conveyor and the face, otherwise than occasionally or for short periods, support rules in relation thereto shall require the setting of at least one temporary prop within three feet of every place where any person passes or works if such place is more than three feet in front of the front row of props or other supports:

Provided that if at any such place approved powered supports fitted with cantilever bars approved for the purpose of this paragraph are used, the support rules may specify the use of at least one such bar within three feet of every place where any person passes or works, instead of temporary props.

(2) At any place to which the foregoing paragraph does not apply, being a place at a longwall face, support rules in relation thereto shall require the setting as soon as may be during the process of filling or loading—

- (i) where mineral is worked on the front, of temporary props in a row not more than three feet in advance of the front row of props and

at intervals between adjacent props in such row of temporary props not exceeding the interval at which the props in the front row are set;

- (ii) where mineral is worked on the buttock, of temporary props at intervals not exceeding three feet measured parallel to the face from the last prop in the row of props then in the course of being set or from the last temporary prop as the case may be.

(3) At any place at which mineral is worked, being a place to which neither of the two foregoing paragraphs apply but at which the work does not consist solely of ripping, the support rules in relation thereto shall include provision for the roof newly exposed by the working of that mineral in advance of the last support to have been set to be forthwith effectively supported by props or other suitable supports and where the system of support specifies the use of props and bars, such provision shall specify the setting of temporary props not more than three feet in advance of the last support to have been set and at intervals between adjacent props in a row of temporary props not exceeding four feet.

#### *Holing props and sprags*

19.—(1) During holing at any working face holing props, sprags or other suitable supports shall, unless in the cases hereinafter specified the support rules relating thereto otherwise provide, be set forthwith at such intervals not exceeding six feet as may be specified in such support rules and such props, sprags or other supports shall not be removed until the mineral holed is about to be taken down.

(2) In any case where any armoured conveyor is used at any working face and persons do not pass or work between such conveyor and the face, otherwise than occasionally or for short periods, the support rules may dispense with the setting of such holing props, sprags or other suitable supports as aforesaid.

(3) In any case where the mineral being holed is unstable by reason of its nature or of the strata in which it is found, the support rules may provide for the setting of holing props, sprags or other suitable supports as aforesaid at such time during the cycle of operations as shall be specified in such support rules.

#### *Postponement of setting or removal of supports*

20.—(1) Nothing in the foregoing regulations shall prevent provision being made in support rules for the postponement of the setting or for the removal of—

- (a) any prop in any place where all props used as part of the system of support are approved props and, if coupled bars are used as part of that system all such bars at that place are bars approved for the purposes of this paragraph, in so far as the setting or maintenance of such prop would prevent the operation, advancing or turning of, or the making of room for, any mineral cutter, power loader or conveyor;
- (b) any bar which would be in the intended path of travel of an overcutting machine and would have to be removed to enable the machine to operate.

(2) The postponement of the setting or removal of any prop or bar as aforesaid shall be for as short a period as is practicable.

(3) Where provision is made in pursuance of paragraph (1)(a) of this regulation for the postponement of the setting, or for the removal, of any prop, provision shall be made for the continued support of the roof by bars which

shall be single bars greater in length than the distance between the props at that place, or where that distance does not exceed seven feet, coupled bars.

(4) Every such single bar shall be supported by at least one prop at each end thereof, and every such coupled bar shall be supported by at least one prop:

Provided that one coupled bar in any line of such bars need not be so supported if that bar is connected at each end to another such bar supported by at least one prop.

## PART V

### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

**21.** If any fall of roof or side displaces, breaks or renders ineffective any support at any place where any person has to pass or work, it shall be the duty of the person for the time being in charge of that part of the mine forthwith to ensure that any roof or side exposed thereby or adjacent thereto is, if necessary, dressed and is secured by supports, and that any such dressing and securing is done before any work of clearing debris is begun, other than such work of clearing debris as is necessary for the setting of the supports:

Provided that if such person is unable to comply with the preceding provisions of this regulation he shall ensure that no person passes or works there except in accordance with directions given by the manager.

#### *Control of strata by packing*

**22.—(1)** Where, in accordance with the system of work at any face working, packs are used for the purpose of controlling the general movement of strata in the mine, support rules shall specify—

- (a) the distance not to be exceeded at any place between the face and the front line of the packs built for that purpose opposite the face;
- (b) the minimum width of every such pack;
- (c) the maximum distance between adjacent packs built for that purpose.

(2) Where packs are used for the purpose of controlling the general movement of strata in the mine, each operation by which such packs are built shall be completed before the width of roof exposed by the working of mineral at any place, since the completion of the last preceding operation by which such packs were built at that place, exceeds a distance to be specified by support rules and the distance so specified shall not exceed seven feet.

**23.—(1)** Where, in accordance with the system of work at any face working supports are withdrawn from the waste or from under the roof adjoining the waste, support rules shall provide for the setting and maintenance of supports at intervals specified therein for the purpose of preventing the breaking of the roof overriding the supports at that face, and occurring otherwise than in the waste.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in these regulations, supports may be withdrawn in accordance with the system of work at any face working from the area in advance of the waste for a distance not exceeding five feet in advance of the front line of the pack bounding that waste, if no material for the building of any pack is to be obtained from any place from which supports have been withdrawn, and if support rules applicable thereto include, in addition to other provisions required by these regulations to be included therein which may apply

to such case, provision for the setting of support in advance of the packs for the purpose of preventing the breaking of roof from overriding the supports in front of the packs.

*Form of support rules*

**24.** Support rules with respect to every mine shall comprise such plans and sections or diagrams of every system of support to be provided as to make the particulars of each system readily understood by all persons who are to be engaged in carrying out that system.

Dated 19th July 1966.

*Richard Marsh,*  
Minister of Power.

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the regulations.)*

These regulations, made by the Minister of Power under the Mines and Quarries Act 1954, replace, with amendments, the Coal and Other Mines (Support) Regulations 1956 and relate to the provision of support for the roof and sides in mines of coal, shale and fireclay.

Regulations 6 to 10 contain general provisions as to the setting of props, the provision of lids between props and the roof of the mine in certain cases, the building of chocks and packs and the setting of arch girders.

Regulations 11 to 15 contain provisions as to systematic support at face workings and roadheads and prescribe minimum distances between supports to be specified in support rules made by the manager of a mine in respect of such places. Regulation 16 contains similar provisions in relation to places where the support of the roof is provided by powered supports.

Regulation 17 deals with support at places where the roof is ripped, and regulations 18, 19 and 20 contain provisions as to temporary supports, holing props and sprags, and the temporary removal, or postponement of setting, of supports.

Regulation 21 requires remedial action where roof falls render support ineffective. Regulations 22 and 23 deal with control of strata movement by the provision of packs and the systematic withdrawal of support from the waste.

Regulation 24 requires support rules made by a manager to be in a form readily understood by those concerned with carrying them out.

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