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HEALTH ACT 1911

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CONSTRUCTION  
CAMP REGULATIONS



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Reprinted under the Reprints  
Act 1984 as at 11 October 1985.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

HEALTH ACT 1911.

**CONSTRUCTION CAMP REGULATIONS.**

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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HEALTH ACT 1911.

## CONSTRUCTION CAMP REGULATIONS.

### PART I.—PRELIMINARY.

#### Citation.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Construction Camp Regulations.

[Reg. 2 omitted under Act No. 13 of 1984, s. 7(4)(c).]

[Reg. 3 omitted under Act No. 13 of 1984, s. 7(4)(d).]

#### Onus.

4. The onus of complying with these regulations shall unless otherwise provided rest with the occupier of the construction camp.

### PART II.—GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION CAMPS.

#### Definitions.

5. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“artificial light” means light sufficient to illuminate the entire room at 54 lumens per square metre of general illumination, measured on a horizontal plane 915 millimetres above the floor;

“construction camp” means any camp used for a duration of more than 6 months though not necessarily in the one location, for the accommodation of a work force of more than 25 persons in conjunction with—

- (a) the construction of a railway line or siding;
- (b) the construction, structural alteration or demolition of—
  - (i) a building;
  - (ii) a dock, wharf, jetty, pier, breakwater, tunnel, dam, viaduct, reservoir, pipeline, gasholder; and
  - (iii) waterworks or sewerage works;
- (c) the preparation of an area for mining operations; and
- (d) any other work that requires a temporary resident work force,

but does not include—

- (e) camps used for defence purposes; and
- (f) wayside camps of drovers or teamsters;

“dining room” means a dining room in any construction camp to which this Part applies;

“effective air conditioning” means the distribution of filtered air into an enclosed space at controlled temperatures and humidity and “effectively air conditioned” has a corresponding meaning;

“kitchen” means a kitchen in any construction camp to which this Part applies;

“occupier” means a person having the charge, management or control of premises, and where 2 or more persons share or jointly have the charge, management or control of premises, each of those persons;

“sleeping quarters” means sleeping quarters in any construction camp to which this Part applies.

[Reg. 5 amended by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3586; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1428.]

#### **Application.**

6. This Part does not apply to caravans in construction camps.

#### **Doors and light in sleeping quarters.**

7. Every sleeping quarters shall—

- (a) have at least one door of at least 760 millimetres in width and 1.98 metres in height; and
- (b) be provided with artificial light.

[Reg. 7 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1428.]

#### **Air space in sleeping quarters.**

8. (1) Every sleeping quarters shall contain not less than 11 cubic metres of air space calculated for each person who sleeps in the quarters, except where the sleeping quarters are transportable units which shall contain not less than 9 cubic metres of air space for each such person.

(2) Where transportable units used as sleeping quarters in any area north of the 26th parallel of latitude or in any other area specified by the Minister by notice published in the *Gazette*, contain less than 11 cubic metres of air space for each person who sleeps in the quarters, effective air conditioning shall be installed in those sleeping quarters.

[Reg. 8 substituted by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3586. Amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1428.]

#### **Ventilation of sleeping quarters.**

9. Every sleeping quarters shall be ventilated—

- (a) by the provision of a window or windows, which when opened, either singly or in the aggregate, provide an open space—
  - (i) that has a minimum area of 0.5 square metre for every 10 square metres of floor area;
  - (ii) the highest part of which is within 460 millimetres of the ceiling line; and
  - (iii) that provides direct uncontrolled ventilation to the external air; or
- (b) by permanent ventilation consisting of 0.015 square metre of uncontrolled ventilation for each 10 square metres of floor area; or
- (c) by a system of mechanical ventilation giving not less than 6 changes of air per hour.

[Reg. 9 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1428.]

**Space between beds.**

10 Every sleeping quarters shall have a space of not less than 810 millimetres between each bed.

[Reg. 10 amended by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3586; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1428.]

**Cooking prohibited in sleeping quarters.**

11. No person shall be permitted to prepare or partake of a meal in any sleeping quarters, except when a person is confined to those quarters by ill-health.

**Ventilation of kitchen.**

12. (1) Every kitchen shall be ventilated by one of the following methods—

(a) by natural ventilation consisting of—

(i) one or more windows placed in an external wall, so constructed that portion of the windows equal to at least one-twentieth of the floor area of the room can be opened and portion of each such window extends to at least 1.98 metres above the floor level; and

(ii) by registers, vents, cowls or ducts, fixed in or near the ceiling boxed in and having a baffle of 50 millimetres clear above the boxing and extending 75 millimetres beyond it on all sides, so as to provide an effective airway of not less than 4 000 square millimetres for each one square metre of floor area; or

(b) by a system of mechanical ventilation giving not less than 15 complete changes of air per hour.

(2) For the purposes of subregulation (1) (a) (i), where a kitchen is fitted with a door—

(a) the upper half of which moves independently of the lower half;

(b) which is fitted in an external wall; and

(c) which extends to at least 1.98 metres above floor level,

the area of the upper half of that door may be regarded as the opening portion of a window.

[Reg. 12 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, pp. 1428-9; G.G. 12/7/74, p. 2597.]

**Kitchen stoves.**

13. Every stove in a kitchen shall have a hood connected to a ventilation shaft sufficient to carry away all steam and cooking odours.

**Kitchen protection against insects.**

14. (1) The windows, doorways and other openings in every kitchen shall be screened with a fine mesh to exclude the ingress of flies and other insects.

(2) Food in any kitchen not being prepared and not in the refrigerator shall be kept in fly proof cupboards.

**Kitchen floor.**

15. Every kitchen floor shall be of an impervious material.

**Kitchen facilities.**

16. Every kitchen shall be equipped with—
- (a) a stainless steel sink for dishwashing;
  - (b) a stainless steel wash trough for washing pots and larger kitchen utensils;
  - (c) a handbasin supplied with hot and cold water, soap, nailbrush and disposable paper towels;
  - (d) an adequate supply of hot water available at all times;
  - (e) food preparation tables with a smooth impervious washable surface of a material other than lino;
  - (f) adequate refrigerated storage for keeping perishable foods;
  - (g) a sufficient number of rubbish receptacles with a smooth impervious surface and tight fitting lid, for the reception of food scraps; and
  - (h) artificial light.

**Kitchen cleansing.**

17. (1) Every kitchen and all its facilities shall be maintained in a clean and efficient condition.

(2) To enable cleansing to be carried out in the kitchen—

- (a) stoves, not sealed against a wall, shall be positioned at least 75 millimetres clear of the wall;
- (b) benches and fixtures not built into the floor, shall be at least 380 millimetres clear of the floor; and
- (c) all cupboards and other fixtures and all walls and ceilings shall have smooth impervious washable surfaces.

[Reg. 17 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

**Dining room space.**

18. Every dining room shall contain at least one square metre of space for each person it accommodates at any one time.

[Reg. 18 amended by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3586; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

**Ventilation of dining room.**

19. Every dining room shall be ventilated—

- (a) by controllable ventilation and by permanent ventilation consisting of 0.015 square metre of uncontrolled ventilation for every 10 square metres of area;
- (b) by a system of mechanical ventilation giving not less than 8 complete changes of air per hour; or
- (c) by effective air conditioning.

[Reg. 19 amended by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3586; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

**Construction and lighting of dining room.**

20. Every dining room—

- (a) shall be lined and ceiled;
- (b) shall have walls with a smooth impervious washable surface to a height of at least 1.8 metres;
- (c) shall have floors of an impervious material;



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- (d) shall have window areas of one square metre for each 10 square metres of floor space, or be effectively air conditioned;
- (e) shall be provided with artificial light.

[Reg. 20 amended by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3587; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

#### **Dining room insect protection.**

21. The windows, doorways and other openings in the dining room shall be screened with a fine mesh or by some other physical means to exclude the ingress of flies and other insects.

[Reg. 21 amended by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3587.]

#### **Tables.**

22. Every dining room—

- (a) shall have tables with a smooth impervious washable surface of a material other than lino; and
- (b) shall have at least 610 millimetres of space at a dining table for every person it accommodates.

[Reg. 22 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

#### **Sanitary and ablutionary facilities.**

23. Every construction camp shall provide—

- (a) for males—
  - (i) one closet to every 15 employees;
  - (ii) one urinal stall or 535 millimetres of urinal space at a urinal stall for every 20 employees;
  - (iii) one shower to every 15 employees; and
  - (iv) either one wash basin to every 15 employees or an equivalent trough with taps spaced 610 millimetres apart;
- (b) for females—
  - (i) one closet to every 10 employees;
  - (ii) one shower to every 15 employees; and
  - (iii) either one wash basin to every 15 employees or an equivalent trough with taps spaced 610 millimetres apart.

[Reg. 23 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

#### **Closets.**

24. In every construction camp—

- (a) closets shall be connected to the water carriage system of disposal wherever possible;
- (b) where a closet is not connected to the water carriage system of disposal it shall be so constructed as to be completely fly proof.

**Plumbing standards.**

25. All plumbing fixtures and fittings at a construction camp shall be in accordance with the standards laid down in the by-laws made under the County Towns Sewerage Act 1948.

**Laundry facilities.**

26. (1) Unless industrial laundry facilities are provided, every construction camp shall be provided with washing units to the following scale:—

Up to 100 persons—1 unit to 10 persons.

Over 100 up to 200 persons—1 unit to 12 persons.

Over 200 up to 300 persons—1 unit to 15 persons.

Over 300 up to 500 persons—1 unit to 20 persons.

Over 500 persons—1 unit to 30 persons.

One washing unit consists of a copper and 2 troughs or a washing machine and one trough.

(2) Where a washing machine is provided it must be connected to a hot water supply or have its own element capable of heating the water.

(3) Clothes hoist or lines shall be provided in sufficient quantity to cater for the needs of the employees.

[Reg. 26 amended by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3587.]

**Water supply.**

27. (1) A sufficient supply of potable water for drinking purposes shall be provided at every construction camp.

(2) All tanks and vessels used for the storage of drinking water shall be so constructed and covered as to prevent water stored therein from becoming polluted or contaminated.

**PART III.—CARAVANS USED IN CONSTRUCTION CAMPS.****Definitions.**

28. In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires—

“ablutionary or sanitary caravan” means a structure with either fixed or retractable wheels and axles, designed for use as an ablutionary or sanitary block, so constructed as to be movable by towing and used in a construction camp;

“artificial light” means light sufficient to illuminate the entire room at 54 lumens per square metre of general illumination, measured on a horizontal plane 915 millimetres above the floor;

“construction camp” means any camp used for a duration of more than 3 months though not necessarily in the one location, for the accommodation of a work force of more than 25 persons in conjunction with—

(a) the construction of a railway line or siding;

(b) the construction, structural alteration or demolition of—

(i) a building;

(ii) a dock, wharf, jetty, pier, breakwater, tunnel, dam, viaduct, reservoir, pipeline, gasholder; and

(iii) waterworks or sewerage works;

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- (c) the preparation of an area for mining operations; and
- (d) any other work that requires a temporary resident work force,  
but does not include—
- (e) camps used for defence purposes; and
- (f) wayside camps of drovers or teamsters;

“dining caravan” means a structure with either fixed or retractable wheels and axles, designed for use as a dining room, so constructed as to be movable by towing, and used in a construction camp;

“kitchen caravan” means a structure with either fixed or retractable wheels and axles, designed for use as a kitchen, so constructed as to be movable by towing and used in a construction camp;

“office caravan” means a structure with either fixed or retractable wheel and axles, designed for use as an office, so constructed as to be movable by towing, and used in a construction camp;

“residential caravan” means a structure with either fixed or retractable wheels and axles, designed for use as a dwelling for human occupation, so constructed as to be movable by towing, and used in a construction camp;

“sleeping caravan” means a structure with either fixed or retractable wheels and axles, designed for use as sleeping compartments for human occupation, so constructed as to be movable by towing, and used in a construction camp;

“toilet compartment” means a compartment designed to accommodate a chemical closet or a water closet used in a construction camp.

[Reg. 28 erratum 26/6/70, p. 1845. Amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

#### **Floor areas in residential caravans.**

29. (1) Residential caravans shall have a floor area of not less than 7.4 square metres and the total floor area shall be ascertained from external measurements taken at a height of 460 millimetres above floor level.

(2) A floor area of 3.7 square metres per person shall be provided for each adult or child over 10 years of age.

(3) A floor area of 1.85 square metres shall be provided for each of the first 2 children under 10 years of age and 3.7 square metres each for any children under 10 years of age in excess of 2.

[Reg. 29 amended by G.G. 16/12/71, p. 5225; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

#### **Ceiling heights in residential caravans.**

30. The average ceiling height of a residential caravan shall not be less than 1.93 metres.

[Reg. 30 amended by G.G. 20/4/71, p. 1189; G.G. 16/12/71, p. 5225; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

#### **Toilet compartments in relation to food preparation.**

31. A toilet compartment shall not open directly into that part of a caravan used for food preparation.

**Separate sleeping compartments.**

32. (1) Except for married couples and for children under 10 years of age, there shall be separate sleeping compartments for males and females.

(2) Every sleeping compartment for an adult shall be at least 1.9 metres in one plan dimension.

[Reg. 32 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

**Sleeping compartment dimensions.**

33. (1) The dimensions of each sleeping compartment shall be such that there is 5 cubic metres for each person intended to be accommodated therein.

(2) Each sleeping compartment shall have a locker or wardrobe for storage of clothes.

[Reg. 33 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

**Fly wire.**

34. The windows, doorways and other openings in dining and kitchen caravans shall be screened with fine mesh to exclude the ingress of flies and other insects.

**Dining caravans.**

35. Every dining caravan shall have—

- (a) tables with a smooth impervious washable surface; and
- (b) at least 560 millimetres of space at a dining table for every person it accommodates.

[Reg 35 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1429.]

**Kitchen caravans.**

36. (1) Every kitchen caravan shall be equipped with—

- (a) cooking facilities complying with regulation 44(d);
- (b) a double bowl stainless steel sink for dish-washing;
- (c) a handbasin supplied with hot and cold water, soap, nail-brush and disposable paper towels;
- (d) food preparation tables or benches with a smooth impervious washable surface;
- (e) adequate refrigeration storage for keeping perishable foods;
- (f) a sufficient number of rubbish receptacles with a smooth impervious surface and tight fitting lid, for the reception of food scraps; and
- (g) artificial light.

(2) Food in a kitchen caravan not being prepared and not in a refrigerator shall be kept in fly proof cupboards or containers.

**Office caravan.**

37. In addition to office fittings, an office caravan may be fitted with a separate sleeping compartment complying with the requirements set out in regulation 33.

**Ablutionary and sanitary caravans.**

38. (1) Where no fixed ablutionary and sanitary facilities are provided in a construction camp, ablutionary and sanitary caravans shall be used.

(2) Ablutionary and sanitary caravans shall be fitted with water closets or chemical closets, showers, and wash basins in accordance with the requirements of regulation 23.

(3) All plumbing fixtures and fittings shall be in accordance with the standards laid down in the by-laws made under the Country Towns Sewerage Act 1948.

(4) Provision shall be made on the outlets of wash basins and showers for connection to an external method of liquid waste disposal.

[Reg. 38 amended by G.G. 18/11/70, p. 3587.]

#### **Materials used in caravan construction.**

39. (1) All materials used in the construction of a caravan to which these regulations apply shall be of a suitable nature and quality for the purposes for which they are used and the methods of using the materials shall be according to accepted practice in the trade.

(2) The materials used for the construction of the outer skin of a caravan used in a construction camp, shall not be inferior to those faces on which the effective spread of flame neither exceeds 305 millimetres during the first 1½ minutes, nor exceed 840 millimetres after 10 minutes.

[Reg. 39 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1430.]

#### **Internal linings.**

40. (1) In a caravan used in a construction camp, the requirements for internal linings adjacent to any appliance which gives off heat shall be in accordance with the following standards—

- (a) for solid fuel appliances B.S. Code of Practice CP. 340;
- (b) for butane or propane gas Australian Standard CB20-1971 S.A.A. L.P. Gas Code; and
- (c) for electricity S.A.A. Code C.C.7.

(2) Linings not referred to in subregulation (1) shall be in accordance with the Code of Practice and linings outside the areas of the Code of Practice shall, when finished, have surfaces not inferior to that required for the outer skin by regulation 39 and finishes based on nitrocellulose shall not be used.

[Reg. 40 amended by G.G. 16/12/71, p. 5225.]

#### **Design and construction.**

41. A caravan used in a construction camp shall be so designed and constructed that—

- (a) the structure shall be capable of sustaining and transmitting the dead load, imposed loads and horizontal and inclined forces to which it may be subjected in the service in which it is used;
- (b) the external construction of the caravan shall adequately resist the penetration of weather and dampness;
- (c) the external walls, roof and floor shall be of such materials and be so constructed, excluding glazed areas, that the thermal transmittance co-efficient to external surfaces is not more than 0.30;
- (d) condensation on the surface of the inner walls and partitions is avoided without the necessity for lowering the inside temperature or increasing the ventilation beyond the levels required for health and comfort;

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- (e) every living compartment shall be provided with windows or skylights, the total area of which shall be not less than one-tenth the floor area of that compartment;
- (f) the roof shall discharge rainwater clear of windows and doors.
- (g) any fixed partitions separating sleeping compartments from other parts of the caravan together with hinged or sliding doors, shall for the purpose of obtaining some degree of fire protection, completely separate the 2 compartments between which they are used;
- (h) each separate compartment (other than a toilet compartment) shall be provided with a satisfactory means of escape by—
  - (i) a door of not less than 560 millimetres clear opening;
  - (ii) an escape panel of not less than 0.4 square metre clear opening with sides of not less than 460 millimetres and with its lower edge preferably not more than 760 millimetres above floor level, but never more than 915 millimetres above floor level; or
  - (iii) a window which gives direct access to the open air in the event of fire and top hinged windows shall open through at least 70° and shall automatically stay full open until closed manually;
- (i) where it is a residential caravan there shall be at least 2 access doors spaced well apart or one door and adequate escape hatches, the door or doors shall open outwards and be of not less than 560 millimetres clear opening and shall be on the near side of the caravan and be hinged to the front.

[Reg. 41 amended by G.G. 3/5/74, pp. 1429-30.]

#### **Artificial light.**

42. Every caravan used in a construction camp shall have means of providing artificial light either by gas or electricity.

#### **Residential caravans.**

43. Every residential caravan shall be equipped with—
- (a) adequate cooking facilities;
  - (b) a fixed sink, the waste pipe of which shall discharge outside the caravan;
  - (c) an adequate food storage cupboard; and
  - (d) a refrigerator.

#### **Internal equipment.**

44. The installation of internal equipment in a caravan used in a construction camp shall where applicable comply with the following standards—

- (a) Any electrical installations shall comply with S.A.A. Code No. C.C.7.—Wiring of Caravans and Caravan Parks.
- (b) Any installation for the use of propane or butane gas shall comply with Australian Standard CB20-1971 S.A.A. L.P. Gas Code (1956).
- (c) Light fittings shall comply with S.A.A. Code C.C.7. for electricity and Australian Standard CB20-1971 S.A.A. L.P. Gas Code for gas.
- (d) Electrical cooking appliances shall comply with the S.A.A. Code No. C.C.7.—Wiring of Caravans and Caravan Parks and gas burning cooking appliances shall comply with Australian Standard CB20-1971 S.A.A. L.P. Gas Code.

## II

- (e) All appliances shall be heat insulated from any combustible part of the caravan in the manner required in the Australian Standard CB20-1971 S.A.A. L.P. Gas Code and a shield of non-combustible material shall be provided over the exposed vertical surface adjacent to and immediately above any hotplate to a height of not less than 305 millimetres and extending beyond the sides of the appliance to a distance of not less than 405 millimetres.
- (f) Water heating appliances shall comply with Australian Standard CB20-1971 S.A.A. L.P. Gas Code for Butane or Propane Gas, S.A.A. Code C.C.7. for electricity and B.S. Code of Practice CP.340 for solid fuel.
- (g) Chemical closets shall comply with the requirements of British Standard 2081—Portable closets for use with chemicals.
- (h) Flushing water closets shall have provision on the pan outlet for connection to an external drainage system and shall be fed from a cold water storage cistern on the site distribution system via a flushing cistern complying with Metropolitan Water Board or Country Water Supply (Sewerage) Regulations.
- (i) Boxed in compartments and cupboards shall be easily accessible for cleaning purposes.

[Reg. 44 amended by G.G. 16/12/71, p. 5225; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1430.]

**Fixed ventilation.**

45. Fixed ventilation shall be provided in caravans used in construction camps—

- (a) at the base of cookers and hotplates to ensure complete combustion of the fuel;
- (b) overhead, to remove products of combustion and cooking smells;
- (c) in gas container lockers in accordance with the requirements of Australian Standard CB20-1971 S.A.A. L.P. Gas Code;
- (d) in solid fuel fire installations in accordance with the requirements of B.S. Code of Practice CP. 340;
- (e) in food storage cupboards and lockers equally at the bottom and the top, each vent having a nett minimum area of 450 square millimetres per cubic metre of interior volume, calculated on the open space when the vents are covered with a vermin proof shield and shelves shall be so designed as to permit the passage of a current of air from the bottom vent to the top one;
- (f) in totally enclosed fold-away beds, to permit a flow of air, but vents should not communicate directly with the air outside the caravan;
- (g) in wardrobes and bedlockers, to permit a flow of air from the bottom to the top, between ventilators, but vents should not communicate directly with the air outside the caravan;
- (h) in toilet compartments, at floor level near the chemical closet or water closet pan, and shall have not less than 2 900 square millimetres effective opening.

[Reg. 45 amended by G.G. 16/12/71, p. 5225; G.G. 3/5/74, p. 1430.]

**Adjustable ventilation.**

46. In addition to permanent ventilation, adjustable ventilation shall be installed, in caravans used in construction camps, either in the roof or at a high level, in small bedrooms, over cookers and hot plates and in the toilet compartment to cater for adverse conditions requiring windows to be shut.

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## PART IV.—PENALTY.

**Penalty.**

47. Any person who by act or omission contravenes or fails to comply with any of these regulations commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding \$200.

**NOTES**

1. Published in the *Government Gazette* on 16 June 1970 at p.p. 1668-75. (Erratum on 26/6/70, p. 1845.)
2. The reprint incorporates the amendments set out in the Table of Amendments below.

Table of Amendments.

<i>Date of Government Gazette</i>	Page Numbers	Day of Commencement
18/11/70	3586-7	18/11/70
20/4/71	1188-9	20/4/71
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