

1990 - No. 526

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1945 - REGULATION**  
(Relating to residual current devices)

NEW SOUTH WALES



*[Published in Gazette No. 93 of 27 July 1990]*

HIS Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, and in pursuance of the Electricity Act 1945, has been pleased to make the Regulation set forth hereunder.

NEIL PICKARD  
Minister for Minerals and Energy.

---

**Commencement**

1. This Regulation commences on 27 July 1990.

**Amendments**

2. The Consumers' Electrical Installations (Safety) Regulations 1961 are amended:

- (a) by inserting in Regulation 3 after the definition of "Relevant authority" the following definition:

**"Residual current device"** means a device or unit of a fixed wiring or portable type which complies with Australian Standard AS 3190-1990, Residual Current Devices, published by the Standards Association of Australia, and which

- (a) is intended to isolate, or initiate a tripping signal to isolate, a low or medium voltage supply to protected circuits, socket outlets or equipment in the event of a

current flow to earth which exceeds a pre-determined level; and

- (b) has a rated residual current not exceeding 300mA for fixed wiring devices and units and 30mA for portable devices; and
- (c) has a rated load current not exceeding 100A for fixed wiring devices and units and 20A for portable devices, but does not include a device or unit:
  - (d) the design of which is intended to be used with a particular circuit-breaker other than a miniature overcurrent circuit-breaker; or
  - (e) intended for the protection of an electricity supply authority distribution system; or
  - (f) intended for the protection of equipment in mines.
- (b) by inserting after Regulation 5 (2) the following clause:
  - (3) For the purposes of these Regulations, the S.A.A. Wiring Rules are to be taken to contain a requirement that the installation of a consumer's installation on or after 1990 must include the installation of a residual current device or devices to protect:
    - (a) general purpose socket-outlets (other than socket-outlets supplying refrigerators and freezers) installed in domestic premises; and
    - (b) socket-outlets, installed in caravan parks, that supply caravans and movable dwellings.

---

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The object of this Regulation is to amend the Consumers' Electrical Installations (Safety) Regulations 1961 so as to require the installation of residual current devices to protect socket outlets installed in domestic premises and caravan parks first connected to supply on or after the commencement of the Regulation.

---