



New South Wales

Co-operatives (New South Wales) Regulation 2014

under the

Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012

Her Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has made the following Regulation under the *Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012*.

STUART AYRES, MP
Minister for Fair Trading

Explanatory note

The objects of this Regulation are:

- (a) to prescribe certain matters for the purposes of the *Co-operatives National Law (NSW)* and the *Co-operatives National Regulations (NSW)* (see Part 2 of this Regulation), and
- (b) to prescribe fees payable under the *Co-operatives National Law (NSW)*, the *Co-operatives National Regulations (NSW)* and the *Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012* (see Part 3 of this Regulation), and
- (c) to make a saving provision for the *Co-operatives Regulation 2005* (which is to be repealed by the *Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012* on the commencement of that Act) and a transitional provision for existing co-operatives operating under old rules (see Part 4 of this Regulation).

This Regulation comprises or relates to matters set out in Schedule 3 to the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1989*—namely, matters of a machinery nature, matters of a savings or transitional nature, matters arising under legislation that is substantially uniform or complementary with legislation of the Commonwealth or another State or Territory, and matters that are not likely to impose an appreciable burden, cost or disadvantage on any sector of the public.

This Regulation is made under the *Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012*, including section 18 (the general regulation-making power) and clause 1 of Schedule 1.

Contents

	Page
Part 1 Preliminary	
1 Name of Regulation	3
2 Commencement	3
3 Definitions	3
Part 2 Prescription of matters for the Act, Law and National Regulations	
4 Unsuitable names for co-operatives under section 220 (5) of the Law (CNR regulation 3.7)	4
5 Prohibited names for corporations—exemptions (CNL section 220 (7))	4
6 Restriction on use of word co-operative or similar words—persons other than co-operatives (CNL section 225 (2))	4
7 Application for transfer (CNL section 403)	5
8 Examination of involved person—fees and expenses (CNL section 522 (4))	5
9 Inspection of register of co-operatives (CNL section 601 (2))	5
10 Procedures regarding giving of exemptions (CNL section 621)	5
Part 3 Fees	
11 Prescribed fees	6
12 Fees with respect to the applied provisions of the Corporations Act	11
13 Waiving, reducing or refunding fees	11
Part 4 Miscellaneous	
14 General savings for repealed regulation	12
15 Co-operatives may continue to operate under old rules	12

Co-operatives (New South Wales) Regulation 2014

under the

Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Regulation

This Regulation is the *Co-operatives (New South Wales) Regulation 2014*.

2 Commencement

This Regulation commences on the day on which the *Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012* commences, and is required to be published on the NSW legislation website.

3 Definitions

(1) In this Regulation:

CNL or **the Law** means the *Co-operatives National Law (NSW)*.

CNR means the *Co-operatives National Regulations (NSW)*.

Registrar means the Registrar of Co-operatives (as referred to in section 24 of the Act).

the Act means the *Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012*.

(2) Terms used in this Regulation and also in the CNL have the same meanings in this Regulation as they have in the CNL.

Part 2 Prescription of matters for the Act, Law and National Regulations

4 Unsuitable names for co-operatives under section 220 (5) of the Law (CNR regulation 3.7)

For the purposes of regulation 3.7 of CNR, a name is declared an unsuitable name if the Registrar is satisfied:

- (a) that the name is likely to mislead the public or others in relation to the nature, objects or functions of a co-operative or proposed co-operative or in any other respect, or
- (b) without limiting paragraph (a), that the name is identical to, or closely resembles, the name of another co-operative already registered in this jurisdiction or in a participating jurisdiction.

5 Prohibited names for corporations—exemptions (CNL section 220 (7))

- (1) For the purposes of section 220 (7) of the Law, an entity is exempt from section 220 (4) of the Law if the entity is:
 - (a) a co-operative housing society within the meaning of the *Co-operative Housing and Starr-Bowkett Societies Act 1998*, or
 - (b) a company or society formed or incorporated under an Act before the commencement of the *Co-operation Act 1923*, or
 - (c) a corporation that is allowed under an Act of any jurisdiction or of the Commonwealth to use the word “co-operative” or the abbreviation “co-op” in its name, or
 - (d) an entity that is exempted by the Registrar by written notice from the operation of section 220 (4) of the Law and that complies with any conditions to which the exemption is made subject.
- (2) The Registrar is not to grant an exemption under subclause (1) (d) unless satisfied that the entity concerned is trading or carrying on business for the purpose of promoting the economic interests of its members in accordance with co-operative principles or for any charitable purpose.
- (3) The following provisions apply to an exemption granted by the Registrar under subclause (1) (d):
 - (a) the exemption may be limited as to time, and
 - (b) the Registrar may vary the conditions of the exemption, or revoke the exemption, by written notice to the entity or any member of the controlling body of the entity.

6 Restriction on use of word co-operative or similar words—persons other than co-operatives (CNL section 225 (2))

- (1) For the purposes of section 225 (2) of the Law, an entity is exempt from section 225 (1) of the Law if the entity is:
 - (a) an entity referred to in clause 5 (1) (a), (b) or (c), or
 - (b) an entity that is exempted by the Registrar by written notice from the operation of section 225 (1) of the Law and that complies with any conditions to which the exemption is made subject.
- (2) The following provisions apply to an exemption granted by the Registrar under subclause (1) (b):
 - (a) the exemption may be limited as to time, and

- (b) the Registrar may vary the conditions of the exemption, or revoke the exemption, by written notice to the entity or any member of the controlling body of the entity.

7 Application for transfer (CNL section 403)

For the purposes of section 403 (b) of the Law, a co-operative may apply to become registered, incorporated or otherwise established as a corporation under:

- (a) the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*, or
- (b) the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* of the Commonwealth, or
- (c) any other legislation of any jurisdiction or of the Commonwealth that provides for the incorporation of a building society, credit union or friendly society.

8 Examination of involved person—fees and expenses (CNL section 522 (4))

An involved person who attends for examination by an investigator is entitled to be paid the allowance and the expenses that would be payable for conduct money expenses and loss of time as he or she would have been entitled to on attending to give evidence, or to produce a document, at the trial of proceedings before a court.

Note. Rule 24.20 of the *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005* provides as follows: “A witness attending before an examiner to be examined, or to produce a document, is entitled to payment of the same amount for conduct money expenses and loss of time as he or she would have been entitled to on attending to give evidence, or to produce a document, at the trial of the proceedings before the court”. Reference is also made to the notice setting out the scale of allowances to witnesses and published by the Attorney General in Gazette No 62 of 24 June 2011, pages 4599–4600.

9 Inspection of register of co-operatives (CNL section 601 (2))

For the purposes of section 601 (2) of the Law:

- (a) the prescribed manner in which any of the things referred in section 601 (1) of the Law may be done is by:
 - (i) lodging a request with the Registrar in the approved form, and
 - (ii) paying the relevant prescribed fee (if any) or otherwise complying with a relevant arrangement (if any) approved under section 601 (3) of the Law, and
- (b) the prescribed place at which any of the things referred to in section 601 (1) of the Law may be done is the office of the Registrar, and
- (c) the prescribed times at which any of the things referred in section 601 (1) of the Law may be done are times during the normal business hours of the office of the Registrar.

10 Procedures regarding giving of exemptions (CNL section 621)

For the purposes of section 621 of the Law, the procedure for the giving of exemptions that are provided for under the Law is as follows:

- (a) an application for an exemption must be made in the approved form but, if there is no relevant approved form, the application must be made in writing,
- (b) where relevant, the application must be made within a reasonable time before the event or the occurrence of the matter for which the exemption is sought,
- (c) the application must be accompanied by the relevant fee prescribed by Part 3.

Part 3 Fees

11 Prescribed fees

The fee specified in Column 4 of an item in the Table to this clause is prescribed as the fee to be paid for the purposes of the provision referred to in Column 2 in relation to the matter described in Column 3.

Table

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Provision	Subject	Fee
1	CNL s 26 (1) (b) (ii)	Application for registration of proposed co-operative—draft formation disclosure statement required under CNL s 23	\$350.00
2	CNL s 26 (1) (b) (ii)	Application for registration of proposed co-operative—draft formation disclosure statement not required under CNL s 23	\$100.00
3	CNL s 31 (b) (ii)	Application for registration of existing corporation—draft formation disclosure statement required under CNL s 23	\$350.00
4	CNL s 31 (b) (ii)	Application for registration of existing corporation—draft formation disclosure statement not required under CNL s 23	\$100.00
5	CNL s 37 (b) (ii)	Issue of duplicate certificate of registration	\$30.00
6	CNL s 60	Application for Registrar's prior approval of certain rule amendments	\$70.00
7	CNL s 63 (2)	Application for registration of rule amendment, other than where pre-approved under CNL s 60—per rule (Maximum of \$150.00 per lodgment) Plus fee for late lodgment:	\$30.00
		(a) within first 28 days after due date	\$100.00
		(b) after first 28 days after due date	\$200.00
8	CNL s 63 (4)	Application for issue of certificate of registration of rule amendment	\$30.00
9	CNL s 71 (1)	Application for exemption from any or all provisions of Division 2 of Part 2.4 of CNL	\$70.00
10	CNL s 82 (3) (a)	Application for registration of disclosure statement for compulsory share take up	\$250.00
11	CNL s 119 (5)	Application to extend period for carrying on business with too few members	\$250.00
12	CNL s 152 (3)	Application for determination of a member's eligibility to vote on an active membership resolution	\$250.00
13	CNL s 171	Application for exemption of co-operative from any or all provisions of Division 5 of Part 2.6 of CNL (former member entitlements)	\$250.00
14	CNL s 213 (1) (d)	Application for approval to keep register at another office	\$70.00

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Provision	Subject	Fee
15	CNL s 220 (7)	Use of “co-operative”, “co-op” etc—application for exemption by Registrar (cl 5 of this Regulation)	\$250.00
16	CNL s 221 (1)	Application to approve omission of “Limited” or “Ltd” in name	\$150.00
17	CNL s 222 (e)	Application to approve abbreviation or elaboration of name	\$30.00
18	CNL s 224	Application to approve change of name	\$250.00
19	CNL s 225 (2)	Restriction on use of “co-operative”, “co-op” etc—application for exemption by Registrar (cl 6 of this Regulation)	\$250.00
20	CNL s 226 (4)	Lodgment of notice of change of address Fee for late lodgment:	nil
		(a) within first 28 days after due date	\$100.00
		(b) after first 28 days after due date	\$200.00
21	CNL s 226 (6)	Application for exemption for a small co-operative or class of small co-operatives from CNL s 226 (3) requirement for a notice about the name of a co-operative and its registered office	\$70.00
22	CNL s 233 (2)	Application by member for review of voting entitlement	\$250.00
23	CNL s 243 (2) (c) (ii)	Filing fee for registration of special resolution—per resolution (Maximum of \$150.00 per lodgment) Plus fee for late lodgment:	\$30.00
		(a) within first 28 days after due date	\$100.00
		(b) after first 28 days after due date	\$200.00
24	CNL s 244 (3)	Application for certificate of registration of special resolution	\$30.00
25	CNL s 248 (3)	Application for approval of disclosure statement for special postal ballot	\$250.00
26	CNL s 289	Lodgment of annual financial reports by large co-operative Plus fee for late lodgment:	\$250.00
		(a) within first 28 days after due date	\$100.00
		(b) after first 28 days after due date	\$200.00
27	CNL s 290	Lodgment of half yearly reports by co-operative that is a disclosing entity Fee for late lodgment:	nil
		(a) within first 28 days after due date	\$100.00
		(b) after first 28 days after due date	\$200.00

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Provision	Subject	Fee
28	CNL s 293	Lodgment of annual return by small co-operative Plus fee for late lodgment: (a) within first 28 days after due date (b) after first 28 days after due date	\$70.00 \$100.00 \$200.00
29	CNL s 316 (1)	Application for exemption of certain persons (in relation to a co-operative) from all or specified requirements of "target provisions"	\$250.00
30	CNL s 317 (1)	Application for exemption of certain persons (in respect of a class of co-operatives) from all or specified requirements of "target provisions"	\$250.00
31	CNL s 319 (1)	Application for exemption of certain persons from all or specified requirements of "target provisions"	\$250.00
32	CNL s 320 (1)	Application for exemption of certain persons (in respect of classes of audit firms or audit companies) from all or specified requirements of "target provisions"	\$250.00
33	CNL s 322	Application for exemption from a provision of CNR made under Part 3.3 (Financial reports and audit) of CNL	\$250.00
34	CNL s 337	Lodgment of disclosure documents for issue of securities other than an issue of securities under CNL s 338	\$2,200.00
35	CNL s 337	Application for exemption or modification of disclosure provisions under Chapter 6D of Corporations Act (as applied)	\$1,080.00
36	CNL s 338 (3)	Application for approval of disclosure statement for issue of non-share securities to members or employees of co-operative	\$250.00
37	CNL s 343 (3) (a)	Application for approval of disclosure statement for compulsory loan from members to co-operative	\$250.00
38	CNL s 343 (10)	Application for exemption from all or specified provisions of CNL s 343 (requirements for compulsory loans from members to co-operative)	\$250.00
39	CNL s 350 (1) (b) and (c)	Application for approval of the statement and terms of issue of CCUs	\$250.00
40	CNL s 359 (3)	Application for exemption from a provision of CNL s 248 and s 359 (requirements in respect of disposal or acquisition of significant assets)	\$250.00
41	CNL s 363 (2)	Application to permit a higher maximum level of share interest than 20% in particular co-operative	\$250.00

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Provision	Subject	Fee
42	CNL s 372 (1)	Application by an individual from the restrictions on share interests, relevant interests etc	\$250.00
43	CNL s 374 (1) (b)	Application for approval of share offers provided for in CNL s 373 that may result in structural change of co-operative	\$2,200.00
44	CNL s 376 (5)	Application to extend time permitted for board to consider a share offer of the kind specified in CNL s 373 (1)	\$70.00
45	CNL s 380 (1)	Application for exemption from a provision of Division 2 of Part 3.5 and s 248 of CNL (requirements for share offers under Division 2 of Part 3.5 of CNL)	\$1,080.00
46	CNL s 396 (2)	Application for consent to merger or transfer of engagements by way of board approval	\$70.00
47	CNL s 397 (2)	Application for approval of disclosure statement for purposes of a merger or transfer of engagements	\$250.00
48	CNL s 397 (4)	Application for exemption of co-operative from complying with CNL s 397 in relation to disclosure statement about a merger or transfer of engagements	\$250.00
49	CNL s 398 (1)	Application for approval of merger or transfer of engagements	\$70.00
50	CNL s 404 (4)	Application for exemption from a provision of CNL s 248 and s 404 (requirements for transfer of incorporation)	\$250.00
51	CNL s 416 (1) (a)	Application for Registrar's permission to shorten notice	\$30.00
52	CNL s 418 (1) (f)	Application for direction exempting from disqualification from administering compromise or arrangement	\$250.00
53	CNL s 424 (1) (b)	Application for Registrar's statement of no objection to compromise or arrangement	\$250.00
54	CNL s 425 (4)	Lodgment of Supreme Court order with Registrar relating to compromise or arrangement Plus fee for late lodgment:	\$30.00
		(a) within first 28 days after due date	\$100.00
		(b) after first 28 days after due date	\$200.00
55	CNL s 428 (1)	Application for Registrar's approval of explanatory statement for compromise or arrangement	\$1,080.00
56	CNL s 445 (3)	Application for exemption from a provision of CNL s 248 or s 445 (requirements for voluntary winding up)	\$250.00

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Provision	Subject	Fee
57	CNL s 453	Application to Registrar to exercise powers in respect of property of a deregistered co-operative	\$250.00
58	CNL s 476 (2) (a)	Application to local Registrar to consent to merger or transfer of engagements occurring as a result of approval by special resolution or decision by the board—merger between local and participating co-operatives	\$70.00
59	CNL s 477 (2)	Application for approval by appropriate Registrar of disclosure statement for merger or transfer of engagements—local and participating co-operatives	\$250.00
60	CNL s 477 (4)	Application to appropriate Registrar for exemption from requirements of CNL s 477 applying to a merger or transfer of engagements—local and participating co-operatives	\$250.00
61	CNL s 478 (1)	Application for approval of merger or transfer of engagements—local and participating co-operatives	\$250.00
62	CNL s 531 (1) (a)	Application to Registrar for special meeting	\$250.00
63	CNL s 531 (1) (b)	Application to Registrar for inquiry	\$480.00
64	CNL s 588 (1)	Application to Registrar for a certificate stating that a thing had or had not been done within a specified period or by a specified date	\$70.00
65	CNL s 588 (2)	Application to Registrar for a certificate stating that requirements of the Law had or had not been complied with or had been complied with at a specified date or within a specified period	\$70.00
66	CNL s 588 (3)	Application to Registrar for a certificate stating that on a specified date a body was not or had ceased to be registered as a co-operative under the Law	\$39.00
67	CNL s 601 (1) (a)	Inspection of register of co-operatives	\$19.00
68	CNL s 601 (1) (b)	Inspection of documents kept by Registrar relating to a co-operative and prescribed by the National Regulations	\$19.00
69	CNL s 601 (1) (c)	Extract from register of co-operatives inspected under CNL s 601 (1) (a): first page each additional page	\$19.00 \$1.00

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Provision	Column 3 Subject	Column 4 Fee
70	CNL s 601 (1) (d)	Certified copy of document that may be inspected under CNL s 601 (1) (b): first page each additional page	\$21.00 \$2.00
71	CNL s 601 (1) (e)	Copy of document that may be inspected under CNL s 601 (1) (b): first page each additional page	\$19.00 \$1.00
72	CNL s 609 (1)	Application for extension or shortening of time	\$70.00
73	CNL s 611 (2) (c) (iii)	Application for permission to give notice to members by newspaper	\$70.00
74	CNR reg 1.4 (5)	Application by co-operative for declaration that it is a small co-operative for a particular financial year	\$250.00
75	<i>Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012</i> , Sch 1, cl 5 (1) (a)	Application for approval for rules of certain co-operatives to restrict voting rights	\$250.00
76	<i>Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012</i> , Sch 1, cl 5 (2)	Application for prior approval of proposed amendment of co-operative's rules relating to cl 5 (1)	\$70.00

12 Fees with respect to the applied provisions of the Corporations Act

Fees for anything done by or in relation to the Registrar under provisions of the Corporations Act as applied under the Law that is not otherwise provided for in clause 11 are to be the same as the fees for chargeable matters under the *Corporations (Fees) Act 2001* of the Commonwealth and the regulations under that Act.

13 Waiving, reducing or refunding fees

The Registrar may waive, reduce or refund any fee chargeable under this Part in any case or class of case if, in the opinion of the Registrar, there are special circumstances that justify this action.

Part 4 Miscellaneous

14 General savings for repealed regulation

Subject to the local application provisions of the Act and the Law, anything done under or in consequence of the *Co-operatives Regulation 2005* and existing or continuing immediately before the commencement of relevant provisions of this Regulation continues to have the same status, operation and effect as it would have had if that Act had not been enacted.

Note. This clause is intended to supplement clause 3 of Schedule 1 to the Act.

15 Co-operatives may continue to operate under old rules

- (1) Subject to subclause (2), a co-operative may continue to operate under the rules (*old rules*) applying to the co-operative that were in force immediately before the commencement of the Act.
- (2) While a co-operative is operating under old rules:
 - (a) if there is any inconsistency between a provision of the old rules and a provision of the Act, the Law, CNR or this Regulation—the provision of the Act, the Law, CNR or this Regulation prevails, and
 - (b) if there is any reference in the old rules to a requirement contained in the *Co-operatives Act 1992* or the *Co-operatives Regulation 2005*—that reference is to be read as a reference to the equivalent requirement contained in the Act, the Law, CNR or this Regulation, and
 - (c) if there is any reference in the old rules to:
 - (i) the co-operative being a trading co-operative—that reference is to be read as a reference to the co-operative being a distributing co-operative, and
 - (ii) the co-operative being a non-trading co-operative—that reference is to be read as a reference to the co-operative being a non-distributing co-operative.