

T A S M A N I A



1903.

ANNO TERTIO

EDWARDI VII. REGIS,

No. 45.

AN ACT to make provision for Lighting the A.D. 1903.
Town of *Queenstown* by Electricity.
[6 January, 1904.]

WHEREAS it is desirable and expedient to make legislative pro- PREAMBLE.
vision to ensure a supply of Electricity for the Town of *Queenstown*,
in the State of *Tasmania*, and for the use of the inhabitants thereof:

Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor of *Tasmania*,
by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and
House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled, as follows:—

1 This Act is divided into Eleven Parts, as follows:—

Division of Act.

Part I.—Preliminary.

Part II.—Purchase of Electricity and Construction of Works.

Part III.—Compensation for damage done by Execution of
Works.

Part IV.—Supply of Electricity.

Part V.—Lighting Rate.

Part VI.—Accounts.

Part VII.—Waste or Misuse of Electricity.

Part VIII.—Offences.

Part IX.—Officers.

Part X.—By-laws.

Part XI.—Miscellaneous.

1s. 2d.]

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PART I.

PRELIMINARY.

Short title.

2 This Act may be cited as "The *Queenstown Lighting Act, 1903.*"Commencement
of Act.**3** This Act shall commence and take effect on the First day of *January*, One thousand nine hundred and four.

Interpretation.

4 In the construction and interpretation of this Act, in any by-law made under it, and in the matter of all proceedings under the authority of this Act, the following words, terms, and expressions shall have the respective meanings assigned to them by this Section, unless there be something in the context of this Act extending or modifying such meaning; that is to say:—

"The Town" or "Town" shall mean the Town of *Queenstown*, in the State of *Tasmania*, as at present proclaimed under "The Town Boards Act, 1896," or as it may be hereafter extended and re-defined :

"The Board" and "Board" shall mean the Town Board of the Town of *Queenstown*, as constituted at the time being under and by virtue of "The Town Boards Act, 1896" :

"Street" extends to and includes any public and common highway, road, footway, bridge, square, culvert, court, passage, park, recreation ground, alley, lane, thoroughfare, public way or place, within the Town of *Queenstown*.

"Works," when used in reference to the purchase, generation, transmission, or supply of electricity, shall mean and include all wires, pipes, lamps, posts, piers, supports, burners, generators, conductors, communicators, receivers, accumulators, distributors, and all other machinery, appliances, apparatus, chattels, and things which the Board shall from time to time use or deem to be necessary for the purchase, generation, transmission, and supply of electricity in accordance with the provisions of this Act :

"*Gazette*" means the *Hobart Gazette* :

"Area" means the Town of *Queenstown*, unless the Board by a special resolution, as hereinafter provided, defines a portion of such Town as the area in which the system of lighting and supply of electricity is proposed to be applied, in which case the word "Area" shall mean such defined area :

"Electricity" shall mean and include electricity, electric light, electric current, or any like power or manifestation of energy :

"Owner" means the person for the time being in actual receipt of or entitled to receive the rents and profits of any house, messuage, habitation, manufactory, or building of whatsoever kind on any land :

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- "Government" shall mean and include the Government for the time being of the State of *Tasmania*, and the Government for the time being of the Commonwealth of *Australia* : A.D. 1903.
- "Postmaster-General" shall mean and include the Deputy Postmaster-General for the time being of the Commonwealth of *Australia* holding office in the State of *Tasmania* :
- "The Mount *Lyell* Mining and Railway Company, Limited," shall include besides the Mount *Lyell* Mining and Railway Company, Limited, its successors and assigns :
- "Person" includes Corporation, Company, Association, Syndicate, or Partnership.

5—(1.) The Board is hereby empowered to take steps to ascertain the cost of providing for and obtaining a supply of electricity for the Town of *Queenstown*, in the State of *Tasmania*, and for the use of the inhabitants thereof; and for either of such purposes or ends the Board may make surveys, take levels, employ engineers and other persons competent to advise the Board; and may cause to be prepared a plan or plans exhibiting a system of lighting the Town of *Queenstown*, in the State of *Tasmania*, and for supplying electricity as the Board may determine to the inhabitants of such Town, with all necessary particulars of the works proposed, and a detailed estimate of the cost of the undertaking, as well as an estimate of the revenue expected to be derived therefrom, and of the annual rate or rates, which in the opinion of the Board may be necessary to provide for the interest and sinking fund on the loan; and for any other annual or other expenditure in connection with the undertaking.

Board may take steps to formulate a system of lighting and supply of electricity for *Queenstown*.

(2.) The Board may apply the system it adopts to the whole Town, or may determine to provide a system applicable to a portion only of the area of the Town, and thereupon the Board may from time to time by a special resolution passed as provided in and by "The Town Boards Act, 1896," and published in the *Gazette*, describe by metes and bounds the area to which the said system is proposed to be applied.

System may be restricted to portion of Town.

(3.) All expenses incurred by the Board in carrying out the powers conferred by this part of this Act, may in the first instance be defrayed out of any moneys under the control of the Board, and applicable for the purposes of "The Town Boards Act, 1896," in the Town, except moneys applicable to roads only, but the Board may replace any such moneys so used for the purposes of this Act out of the proceeds of any loan raised by the Board, or out of any lighting rate, as it may hereafter determine.

Payment of Returning Officer's expenses.

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PART II.

PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

Power to purchase
electricity.

6 It shall be lawful for "The Mount *Lyell* Mining and Railway Company, Limited," from time to time to sell to the Board, and it shall be lawful for the Board from time to time to purchase of and from "The Mount *Lyell* Mining and Railway Company, Limited," electricity at such time or times, in such quantity or quantities, at or for such price or prices, and upon such terms, stipulations, and conditions as "The Mount *Lyell* Mining and Railway Company, Limited," and the Board may from time to time hereafter mutually agree upon; and "The Mount *Lyell* Mining and Railway Company, Limited," and the Board are hereby expressly authorised and empowered to make, enter into, sign, seal, deliver, execute, and do all such contracts, agreements, acts, deeds, writings, matters, and things as they may deem necessary and expedient in the matter of and for the purpose of exercising and putting into operation the powers hereby conferred upon them.

Purchase of land
and acquisition of
easements.

7 The Board is hereby empowered to compulsorily purchase any land, and to compulsorily acquire any easements which the Board may consider to be necessary for the purposes of this Act; and for the purpose of facilitating and effectuating any such purchase of land or acquisition of easements, *The Lands Clauses Act*, except as hereby varied, and except Sections Eight and Nine of that Act, shall be incorporated with this Act.

Entry upon land.

8 For the purposes of this Act it shall be lawful for the Board to enter upon any land and to take levels of the same, and to set out such parts of such land as the Board thinks necessary, and to cut down trees, dig, cut, trench, and break up the soil of such land, and to remove all earth, stone, trees, or other things dug or obtained out of the same, and to use such materials in the construction and maintenance of the works authorised by this Act.

Construction of
works and
buildings, &c.

9 In addition to the powers conferred upon the Board by Section Eight of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Board from time to time to make, erect, construct, lay down, maintain, alter, or discontinue upon any land purchased by the Board under the provisions of this Act, or upon any land now vested in the Board, such works and such buildings, machinery, and other works, apparatus, plant, and appliances as the Board may think necessary for the purposes of this Act.

Board to give
notice prior to
first entry upon
land.

10 Prior to its first entry upon any land by the Board for the purposes of this Act, not less than Seven days' notice of the intention of the Board to enter shall be given by the Board to the owner, but no notice shall be necessary previous to any subsequent entry by the Board upon such land for the purposes of this Act.

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11 The Board may from time to time open and break up the soil and pavement of any streets within the Town, and erect in and upon such streets, and may maintain and from time to time alter and discontinue such machinery, lamps, posts, pipes, piers, supports, conductors, communicators, receivers, distributors, electric lines, wires, buildings, apparatus, engines, and things, and all other works necessary and convenient for any of the purposes of this Act.

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Power to break up streets, &c., and to open drains.

12 Whenever the Board opens or breaks up any street, sewer, drain, or tunnel under the authority of this Act, it shall, with all convenient speed, complete the work for which the same was broken up, and fill in the ground, and reinstate and make good the street, sewer, drain, or tunnel so opened or broken up, and carry away the rubbish occasioned thereby; and shall, at all times whilst any such street is so opened or broken up, cause the same to be fenced and guarded, and a light sufficient for the warning of passengers to be set up and kept against the same every night.

Streets not to be broken up except under superintendence of persons having control of same.

PART III.

COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE DONE BY EXECUTION OF WORKS.

13 In the exercise of the powers conferred by this Act the Board shall do as little damage as can be, and in all cases where it can be done, shall make good such damage.

Board to do as little damage as may be.

14 The Board shall make compensation, in manner hereinafter provided, to all parties lawfully interested in any land, other than land purchased by the Board, in or upon which any works may hereafter be constructed, or which may be injuriously affected by the construction and maintenance of the works under this Act, or otherwise by the execution by the Board of the powers hereby conferred, for all damage sustained by reason of the exercise as to such land of the powers vested in the Board by this Act.

Board to make compensation for damage done by execution of works.

15 Any person claiming such compensation shall prefer his claim by notice in writing, addressed to the Board, and served upon the Secretary thereof, in which notice shall be specified the place of abode of the claimant, the particular act occasioning the damage for which compensation is claimed, the nature and amount of such damage, and the nature of the title or interest of such claimant in or to the land in respect to which the claim is preferred; and if any such person and the Board do not agree as to the amount of such compensation, the same and the application thereof, shall, except in the cases hereinafter mentioned, be determined by arbitration in the manner provided for by *The Lands Clauses Act, 1857*, in cases of disputed compensation.

Persons damaged to make claim for compensation.

Compensation how to be ascertained.

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Regard to be had
to any benefit
which may
accrue.

Persons not
making claim to
be barred.

16 In determining such claims regard shall be had to any benefit which may be done or accrue to the claimant, by or as the result of the provisions in this Act contained.

17 If the Board by notice in writing requires any person to make claim for compensation for any damage occasioned by the exercise of any of the powers conferred on the Board by this Act previously to the service of such notice, such person shall not be entitled to compensation by reason of the exercise of any such notice unless he prefers his claim in manner aforesaid, within Three months after service of such notice.

Dissatisfied party
may appeal to a
Judge of the
Supreme Court.

18 If either party is dissatisfied with the award of the arbitrators or the umpire appointed to determine the amount of compensation to be paid to the owner or occupier of any land taken or occupied under the authority of this Act, the dissatisfied party, when the amount of compensation awarded by the arbitrators or the umpire exceeds One hundred pounds sterling, may appeal from the award of the arbitrators or the umpire, as the case may be, to a Judge of the Supreme Court, and may have the amount of compensation fixed by a Judge of the said Court, in the manner hereinafter provided.

36 Vict. No. 19.

19 If the dissatisfied party desires to appeal from the award of the arbitrators or umpire as aforesaid, he shall within Fourteen days after the delivery to him of such award or a copy thereof, give notice in writing to the other party of his intention to appeal, and shall within One month after the service of such notice upon the opposite party prosecute such appeal in accordance with the rules made by the Judges for conducting appeals under *The Main Line Railway Amendment Act, No. 2*, so far as such rules are applicable; and the amount of compensation to be paid in such cases shall be ascertained by a Judge of the Supreme Court in such manner as he deems advisable, and subject to such conditions as such Judge sees fit to impose; and the Judge may also, in his discretion, make any order as to the party by whom the cost of the appeal shall be borne: Provided, that a Judge of the Supreme Court may, upon what he shall deem sufficient cause, allow an appeal under this Act to be prosecuted after the expiration of the time hereinbefore allowed for that purpose, but no appeal shall be allowed after the expiration of Three months after the service of notice of intention to appeal.

Award not to be
made a Rule of
Court until Judge
determines matter
in dispute.

20 Where the dissatisfied party gives such notice of appeal as aforesaid, then the award given by the arbitrators or the umpire shall not be made a Rule of Court until a Judge of the Supreme Court, by an order under his hand, determines the matter in dispute, or the time hereinbefore allowed for prosecuting the appeal has expired.

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PART IV.

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SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY.

21 If after the Board shall have constructed and erected the necessary works for the generation or purchase and transmission and supply of electricity for lighting the area, any owner or occupier of any house, building, land or other premises in the said area shall require a supply of electricity for producing light, such supply shall in every case be furnished by the Board at such charges as shall from time to time be fixed by the Board, in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Supply of electric light inside area at such charges as may be agreed.

22 If the owner or occupier of any land or building in the said area, or in any other place at which the Board has erected the necessary works for supplying electricity under the provisions of this Act, shall require a supply of electricity for motive power, or for any purpose other than the production of light, the Board may from time to time, as it thinks fit, furnish such supply of electricity to such owner or occupier at such charges, and upon such terms and conditions, as the Board shall from time to time prescribe.

Board may supply electricity for motive power, &c.

23 It shall be lawful for the Board from time to time to make such a rebatement as the Board shall think fit upon all moneys due and owing to the Board for electricity supplied under the provisions of this Act, and which shall be paid to the Board not later than Fourteen days after demand has been made for payment thereof.

Board may make rebatement of charges.

24 The Board shall, before supplying any person with electricity, put up and erect suitable apparatus at some testing place, for the purpose of testing the normal strength and electro-motive force of the electricity supplied to him; the said apparatus and the position of the said testing place to be approved by some person appointed by the Governor in Council.

Provision for testing.

25 It shall be lawful for the Board to prescribe any special form of lamp or burner to be used by any person to whom the Board shall supply electricity for lighting purposes, and only such contractors, builders, artisans, workmen, and other persons as are approved by the Board shall be employed by any person for the purpose of erecting or repairing any machinery, lamps, wires, pipes, conductors, burners, apparatus, plant, or appliance whatsoever to be used in supplying or producing light from electricity supplied by the Board.

No form of lamp or burner to be prescribed, but contractor or workmen to be approved by Board.

26 Where several buildings are supplied with electricity by one common conductor, the respective owners or occupiers of such buildings shall be severally liable to the payment of the same charges for the supply of electric light as they would have been liable to if each of such several buildings had been supplied with electricity by a separate conductor.

Where several premises supplied by one conductor, each to pay.

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Board may
provide meters.

27 The Board may from time to time let for hire to any consumer of motive power or electricity supplied by measure, any meter or instrument for measuring the quantity of energy or of electricity supplied and consumed at such rent in money as shall from time to time be fixed by the Board in accordance with the provisions of this Act; also any conductors, fittings, and apparatus for the conveyance, reception, transformation, storage, or otherwise utilising electricity for lighting, motive power, or any other purpose.

Meters, &c., not
liable to seizure.

28 Such meters, instruments, conductors, fittings, and apparatus shall not be subject to distress for rent of the premises where the same are used, and shall not be attached or taken in execution under any process of any Court of Law or Equity, or under or in pursuance of any adjudication, sequestration, or order in bankruptcy, or other legal proceedings against or affecting the consumer of the electricity or the occupier of the premises or other person in whose possession the meters, conductors, fittings, instruments, and apparatus may be.

PART V.**LIGHTING RATE.**

Board to fix
Lighting Rate in
respect to
buildings within
the area.

29 In order to provide for the payment of the interest from time to time accruing due upon any moneys borrowed under the authority of any Act for the purpose of constructing any works or purchasing and erecting any machinery for obtaining, generating, or transmitting electricity in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and in order to provide moneys for the payment of any electricity purchased in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Board may, once in every year, make and levy a Lighting Rate, to be paid by the respective owners and occupiers of all houses, buildings, or other premises and land within the Town.

Rate not to
exceed Two
Shillings per
Pound of the
annual value.

30 Every such Lighting Rate as aforesaid shall be deemed to be a Town Rate, and may be of any amount not exceeding the sum of Two Shillings for every Pound of the assessed annual value of every house, building, piece of land, or other premises within the Town, according to the Assessment Roll in force for the time being.

Upon making
Rate, notice of
same to be given.

31 Upon the making of any Lighting Rate under this Act, a notice, signed by the Chairman and not less than Three members of the Board, specifying the amount in the Pound of the Rate, the period for which the same is made, and at what times the same is payable, shall be published in the *Gazette*; and upon any such notice being so published the Rate therein mentioned shall be payable and paid at the time specified in such notice by the persons liable to pay the same, according to the annual value of such property as ascertained and determined by

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the Assessment Roll then in force for the Town; and it shall not be necessary in any such notice to set forth the names of the persons liable to the payment of the Rate, or the sums which, according to such Rate, such persons are liable to pay, or any other particulars than hereinbefore in that behalf mentioned. A.D. 1903.

32 If any person liable as herein provided to pay any amount of Lighting Rate or charges, or the hire of any meter, neglects to pay the same within due time after the same has been lawfully demanded, the Chairman of the Board may, after Twenty-four hours' notice, stop the current of electricity supplying the premises in respect of which such Rate or charge is payable by cutting off the wires of such premises, or by such other means as he may think fit, and the amount of Lighting Rate due from such person, together with the expense of cutting off the electricity, may be recovered in the same manner as any Town Rate is recoverable. Rate not paid, Chairman of Board may stop current of electricity.

33 No person shall be liable to be imprisoned for non-payment of any expenses of Lighting Rate or charge for electricity supplied under the provisions of this Act. No imprisonment for non-payment of rate or charges.

34 Subject to the provisions of this Act, so much of "The Town Boards Act, 1896," as relates to the making, levying, and recovery of Rates shall be applicable to all Rates to be made and levied under this Act. Applies provisions of 60 Vict. No. 31.

PART VI.**ACCOUNTS.**

35 The Treasurer of the Board shall keep a separate and distinct account to be called "The Queenstown Electric Light Account," of the proceeds of all rates and all moneys received and paid under the powers and provisions of this Act which relate to the lighting of the area and the supply of electricity; and all rates and moneys received by the Board or the Treasurer under such powers and provisions shall be carried to the credit of the said account, and shall be appropriated and applied to the purposes of lighting the area with electric light and supplying electricity to the inhabitants of the said area, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, including the purchase of any land taken under the provisions of this Act for the purposes aforesaid, and the payment of any compensation payable under the said powers and provisions of this Act. Electric light account to be kept.

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PART VII.**WASTE OR MISUSE OF ELECTRICITY.**

Electric service
to be kept in
repair.

36 If any person when required by the Board neglects to keep in repair any of the works by which his premises are supplied by electricity under the authority of this Act, the Board may cut off the supply of electricity from such premises until such works are sufficiently repaired; and the Board may repair such works, and the cost of repairing the same shall be repaid to the Board by the person neglecting to repair the same, and may be recovered by the Board from such person in a summary way.

Penalty for
obstructing
Board.

37 The Inspector or any other person acting under the authority of the Board may, at any time by night or by day enter into and upon any house, land, or premises supplied with electricity under the authority of this Act, in order to examine if there is any waste or misuse of such electricity, and the condition or state of repair of wires or works by which such electricity is supplied to such house, land, or premises; and if such Inspector or other person is at any time refused admittance to such house, land, or premises for the purposes aforesaid, the Board may cut off the supply of electricity from such house, land, or premises.

PART VIII.**OFFENCES.**

Power to enter
premises to
inspect.

38 Every person who wilfully obstructs, hinders, or interrupts the Board, or any person acting under the authority of the Board, in doing or performing any work by this Act authorised to be done or performed by the Board, or in the exercise of any power or authority by this Act conferred on the Board, shall for every offence incur a penalty of not less than Ten Pounds, nor more than Fifty Pounds.

Allowing persons
not supplied to
use electricity.

39 Every owner or occupier of any premises supplied with electricity under this Act who supplies to any other person, or wilfully permits him to take any of such electricity from any conductor or pipe or service in or on such premises, shall for every such offence incur a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds.

Taking electricity
without authority.

40 Every person who without due authority takes any electricity from any wire or conductor, or other work belonging to the Board, shall for every such offence incur a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds.

Attaching any
conductor, &c.,
without authority.

41 Any person who makes any wire or conductor to communicate with any wire or conductor, or any service or pipe to communicate

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with any pipe or service of the Board, without the authority of the Board in that behalf, shall incur a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds. A.D. 1903. —

42 Any person who carelessly or accidentally breaks, throws down, or damages any electric line, or any pillar, post, lamp, or other works belonging to the Board or under their control, shall forfeit and pay to the Board for the damage so done, by way of satisfaction, such sum of money as will compensate the Board therefor. Persons damaging any electric line, &c., to make compensation.

43 Any person who breaks, throws down, or damages any electric line, or any pillar, post, lamp, or other works belonging to the Board or under their control, and fails to forthwith report the same to the Board's Electrical Engineer, Manager, or Secretary, shall be liable to forfeit and pay to the Board a sum not exceeding Ten Pounds, in addition to the amount of the damage. Person failing to report damage.

44 Where the doing of any act or thing is made punishable by this Act, or by any By-law in force under the authority of this Act, with any penalty, fine, or forfeiture, the causing, procuring, permitting, or suffering such act or thing to be done shall be punishable in like manner. Accessories to offences liable as principals.

45 All penalties for offences against this Act shall be applied to the use of the Board, and shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Board, and shall be carried to the credit of the Electric Light Account. Appropriate fines, penalties, &c.

46 Where no other mode is provided in this Act, all fines and penalties under this Act or under any By-law made in pursuance of this Act may be recovered and enforced before any Police or Stipendiary Magistrate, or before Two or more Justices of the Peace, in the mode prescribed by *The Magistrates Summary Procedure Act*. Recovery of fines, penalties, &c.
19 Vict. No. 8.

47 Any person who thinks himself aggrieved by any penalty imposed under the authority of this Act, or any Act incorporated herewith, or any By-law as aforesaid, which is recoverable in a summary way, may appeal against the same in the mode prescribed by *The Appeals Regulation Act*. Appeal.

48 Every person convicted of any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned may be ordered to pay, in addition to the penalty attached to the offence, a sum equal to the value of the property damaged or destroyed by him in the act of committing the offence. Person convicted may also be ordered to pay value of property damaged.

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PART IX.**OFFICERS.**Appointment
of officers.

49 The Board may from time to time appoint and employ an engineer, inspector, and such other officers and other persons as the Board thinks necessary and proper for the execution of the powers vested in the Board by this Act.

Powers conferred
on Board to
extend to officers
duly authorised.

50 Wherever by this Act authority is conferred on the Board to enter upon any land for the purposes of this Act, or to do any act in or relating to the construction or maintenance of any work, the same authority shall equally extend to all persons acting by the direction of the Board, and to all necessary agents, assistants, servants, workmen, means, and appliances whatsoever.

PART X.**BY-LAWS.**

By-laws.

51 The Board shall have power from time to time to make, alter, modify, amend, or repeal By-laws for the following purposes:—

For regulating the charges, terms, and conditions upon which electricity shall be supplied to any person under the authority of this Act :

For preventing the waste or misuse of electricity supplied by the Board :

For regulating the description of conductors, burners, wires, lamps, pipes, service, plant, and other apparatus and things by means of which electricity may be laid on, distributed, or supplied by the Board, and for prohibiting the use of any other description of conductors, wires, apparatus, pipes, service, burners, plant, or things :

For regulating the construction, disposition, use, custody, and inspection of meters :

For determining the time at which any charge for electricity shall be payable, and whether in advance or not :

For regulating all other matters and things which may be found to be necessary or proper in connection with the supply of electricity under this Act :

For preventing injury to any of the works, or machinery, or apparatus, or things erected by or belonging to the Board for the purchase, generation, supply, or transmission of electricity :

And otherwise for the better effectuating any of the purposes and intentions of this Act in any matter not otherwise sufficiently provided for :

And to provide that any such By-law may be enforced by cutting off the wire, or conductor, or service, or by such pecuniary

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penalty, not exceeding in any case the sum of Twenty Pounds, as the Board thinks proper. A.D. 1903.

Subject to the provisions of this Act, the provisions of "The Town Boards Act, 1896," relating to By-laws made under that Act, shall be applicable to the By-laws made under this Act.

PART XI.**MISCELLANEOUS.**

52 No person shall be disqualified from acting as a Judge, Justice of the Peace, Juror, or otherwise in any proceeding under this Act or any Act incorporated therewith by reason only of his being a ratepayer of the Town of *Queenstown*, or by reason of his being liable to any rate or charge for electricity supplied under this Act, or of his premises being supplied, or being so situated as to be capable of being supplied, with electricity under this Act. Interest in execution of Act not to be a disqualification.

53 No land acquired or held by the Board under the authority of this Act and used for the purposes of this Act shall, unless with the consent of the Governor in Council, be subject to the operation of *The Lands Clauses Act* or any Act incorporating the whole or any portion of that Act. Land acquired under this Act not subject to *Lands Clauses Act*.

54 The like proceedings may be had for recovering and enforcing the payment of any charges payable by any person to the Board for the supply of electricity by the Board under this Act, as may be had for recovering and enforcing any Rate payable under this Act. Charges for lighting, how to be recovered.

55 All sums of money payable by any person for electricity supplied by the Board under the provisions of this Act shall be a debt due from such person to the Board, and shall be recoverable by the Board from such person in any Court of competent jurisdiction as well as by any other mode provided by this Act. Moneys payable for electricity to be recoverable in any Court of competent jurisdiction.

56 In any proceedings under "The Bankruptcy Act, 1870," or any other Act regulating the distribution of the estate or assets of any bankrupt or insolvent debtor, any sum of money owing to the Board for electricity, or light, or energy, or motive power, or any other purpose, supplied to any person by the Board by measure or under any contract authorised by the said Act, shall rank as taxes and rates within the meaning of Section Thirty-one of "The Bankruptcy Act, 1870," and shall have the like priority in the order of payment of the debts of the bankrupt or insolvent debtor. Moneys owing to Board under this Act to be preferential claims in bankruptcy.

