



THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE ACT

(CHAPTER 294)

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Sewerage and Drainage Act

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An Act to provide for and regulate the construction, maintenance, improvement, operation and use of sewerage and land drainage systems, to regulate the discharge of sewage and trade effluent and for matters connected therewith.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

[1st April 1999]

PART I**PRELIMINARY****Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Sewerage and Drainage Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“authorised officer” means any person appointed as an authorised officer under section 3(2);

“Board” means the Public Utilities Board continued under section 3 of the Public Utilities Act (Cap. 261);

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

“building” has the same meaning as in the Building Control Act (Cap. 29);

- “competent authority” means an authority appointed under section 5 of the Planning Act (Cap. 232);
- “drain” includes any canal, culvert, conduit, river or watercourse;
- “drain-line” means any pipe or sewer which is connected to the sewerage system of any premises;
- “drainage reserve” means any land set aside for drainage works pursuant to development proposals approved by a competent authority;
- “drainage works” includes any engineering works for the construction, alteration and maintenance of any storm water drainage system;
- “fittings” means any apparatus or parts used for any sanitary facility or drain-line of any premises;
- “industrial water” means any water reclaimed from the sewage treatment works for use in industries that do not require high grade potable water;
- “Magistrate’s Court limit” has the same meaning as in the Subordinate Courts Act (Cap. 321);
- “occupier”, in relation to any premises, includes any person having the charge, management or control of the premises or any part thereof;
- “owner”, in relation to —
- (a) any premises, includes the person for the time being receiving the rent of the premises, whether on his own account or as agent or trustee or as receiver, or who would receive the rent if the premises were let to a tenant, and the person whose name is entered in the Valuation List authenticated under section 15 of the Property Tax Act (Cap. 254);
 - (b) the common property of any building erected on land comprised in a strata subdivision plan approved by the competent authority, includes the management corporation having control of the building, and a managing agent appointed by a management

corporation or by the Commissioner of Buildings under the Building Maintenance and Strata Management Act 2004, and a liquidator appointed for that management corporation; and

[47/2004 wef 01/04/2005]

- (c) the limited common property of any building erected on land comprised in a strata subdivision plan approved by the competent authority, includes the subsidiary management corporation having control of that limited common property, and a managing agent appointed by a subsidiary management corporation or by the Commissioner of Buildings under the Building Maintenance and Strata Management Act 2004, and a liquidator appointed for that subsidiary management corporation;

[47/2004 wef 01/04/2005]

“premises” includes messuages, houses, buildings, lands, tenements, easements and hereditaments of any tenure, whether open or enclosed, whether built or not, whether public or private, and whether maintained under statutory authority or not;

“public sewerage system” includes —

- (a) sewerage systems which were vested in the Government before 1st April 1999 under the repealed Water Pollution Control and Drainage Act (Cap. 348, 1985 Ed.) or any other written law;
- (b) sewerage systems with respect to which a declaration of vesting has been made under section 8;
- (c) sewerage systems constructed by the Government or the Board on behalf of the Government on any private property at the expense of the Government or acquired by the Government;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

- (d) sewerage systems constructed on any private property and maintained by the Board; and

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(e) sewerage systems owned or managed by the Board;
[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

“public sewers” includes —

- (a) sewers which were vested in the Government before 1st April 1999 under the repealed Water Pollution Control and Drainage Act or any other written law;
- (b) sewers with respect to which a declaration of vesting has been made under section 9;
- (c) sewers constructed by the Government or the Board on behalf of the Government on any private property at the expense of the Government or acquired by the Government; and
- (d) sewers constructed on any private property and maintained by the Board;

“qualified person”, in relation to any sewerage or drainage works, means a qualified person appointed under section 8 or 11 of the Building Control Act (Cap. 29) in respect of works which include the sewerage or drainage works, and whose qualification is appropriate to the nature of those works;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

“reclaimed water” means treated water which has been recovered from a public sewerage system;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

“Registrar of Deeds” means the Registrar of Deeds appointed under the Registration of Deeds Act (Cap. 269);

“Registrar of Titles” means the Registrar of Titles appointed under the Land Titles Act (Cap. 157);

“sanitary appliances” includes wash basins, bath tubs, sinks, urinals, toilet bowls, bidets and other similar fixtures;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

“sanitary facilities” includes bathrooms, toilets, facilities for washing and sanitary appliances, together with the associated pipe-work, whether above or below the ground, which

connect, directly or otherwise, to a private sewage treatment plant or a public sewerage system;

“sewage” includes water-borne domestic waste and trade effluent;

“sewerage system” means a system of sewers, pumping stations, sewage treatment plants, sewage treatment works and water reclamation facilities for one or both of the following purposes:

- (a) the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage;
- (b) the recovery and treatment of water which is supplied to the Board or by the Board,

and includes any main or pipe carrying reclaimed water or sewage, outfall pipe, sanitary pipe, drain-line, grease trap, cesspit, holding tank for the temporary holding of sewage, septic tank, privy, and any part thereof;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

“sewerage works” includes engineering works for the construction, alteration and maintenance of any sewerage system;

“storm water” means rainwater and surface water but does not include sewage;

“storm water drainage system” means a system of drains for the conveyance or storage of storm water and includes —

- (a) any weir, grating, float, boom, gauge, tidegate, sump, storage pond, pumping station, maintenance access, and debris interception and removal facility related to such system;
- (b) any structure constructed to convey, store or measure storm water or for flood alleviation; and
- (c) any bridge over or railing for any such drain or any appurtenance thereof;

“temporary building” has the same meaning as in the Building Control Act (Cap. 29);

“Town Council” means any Town Council established under section 4 of the Town Councils Act (Cap. 329A);

“trade effluent” means any liquid, including particles of matter and other substances in suspension in the liquid, which is the outflow from any trade, business or manufacture or of any works of engineering or building construction;

“works” has the same meaning as “building works” in the Building Control Act (Cap. 29) and includes sewerage works, drainage works and the construction and alteration of sanitary facilities.

PART II

ADMINISTRATION

Administration of Act

3.—(1) The Board shall be responsible for the administration of this Act subject to the general and special directions of the Minister.

[8/2001]

(2) The Board may in writing appoint any public officer or any officer of the Board or of any other statutory authority to be an authorised officer for the purposes of this Act.

[8/2001]

(3) The functions, duties and powers which are imposed or conferred upon the Board under this Act may be performed or exercised by any authorised officer subject to the direction and control of the Board.

[8/2001]

(4) Every authorised officer shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of the Penal Code (Cap. 224).

[8/2001]

[8/2001]

(5) The Board may, from time to time, appoint and authorise in writing any person to perform any particular function or duty or to exercise any particular power under this Act, subject to such conditions or limitations as the Board may specify.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

PART III

SEWERAGE

Construction and maintenance of public sewerage systems**4.—(1) The Board —**

- (a) may cause to be made and constructed any public sewerage system;
- (b) shall maintain and keep in repair every public sewerage system; and
- (c) may enlarge, alter or otherwise improve or discontinue, close up or destroy any public sewerage system which the Board thinks is useless or unnecessary.

[8/2001]

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Board may —

- (a) lay pipes in, under or over any premises, street or building and keep the pipes there;
- (b) tunnel or bore under any premises, street or building;
- (c) carry the sewerage system across, through, along or under any premises or the cellar, basement or vault of any building; and
- (d) carry out any works requisite for, or incidental to, the purposes of subsection (1).

[8/2001]

(3) In carrying out any works under this section, the Board shall cause as little damage as possible, and shall make reasonable compensation for any damage done to any premises, street or building affected by those works.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(4) If by reason of the alteration or closing up of any public sewerage system any person is deprived of the lawful use of any sewer, the Board shall with due diligence provide some other sewer as effectual as the one so deprived.

[8/2001]

(5) The Board may serve a notice on the owner or supplier of any gas, electricity, water or telecommunication services to alter the

course or position of any wire, line, cable, pipe, tube, casing, duct, post, structure or other apparatus which belongs to that owner or is maintained by that owner or supplier and to repair any road surface thereby disturbed if, in the opinion of the Board, such alteration is required for the purposes of subsection (1).

[8/2001]

(6) The Board may give notice to the owner or occupier of any premises requiring him to remove any object or structure described in the notice which is erected on or attached to, or projects from, the land or building if in the opinion of the Board the removal of the object or structure is required for the purposes of subsection (1).

[8/2001]

(7) Any costs and expenses incurred by an owner, supplier or occupier under subsection (5) or (6) shall be borne by the Board.

[5

[8/2001]

Sewers may be emptied into sea

5. The Board may —

- (a) cause any sewer to be emptied into the sea or other fit place;
- (b) cause the sludge from any sewer to be conveyed by a proper channel to the most convenient site for its deposit; and
- (c) sell or otherwise dispose of the sludge for agricultural or any other purpose deemed most expedient so long as it shall not become a nuisance.

[6

[8/2001]

Premises not provided with adequate sewerage system

6.—(1) If it appears to the Board that any premises are not provided with an adequate sewerage system, the Board may, by notice in writing, require the owner or occupier of the premises to construct such sewerage system, or to make such alteration to the existing sewerage system as he considers necessary.

[8/2001]

(2) The Board may, at any time by notice in writing, require the owner or occupier of any premises served by any sewerage system to

make a sufficient drain-line emptying into any public sewer and to disconnect and demolish at his own expense any sewerage system rendered useless or unnecessary thereby.

[8/2001]

(3) The Board may, by notice in writing, require the owner or occupier of any premises to cause all sewage from that premises to be discharged into such sewerage system as it may direct.

[7
[8/2001]

Board may take over control, etc., of private sewerage systems

7.—(1) The Board may take over the control, supervision, maintenance and repair of any private sewerage system to such extent as the Board thinks fit and may charge fees therefor.

[8/2001]

(2) The Board may, at any time, vary or rescind any decision to control, supervise, maintain and repair a private sewerage system.

[8/2001]

(3) Fees charged by the Board for the control, supervision, maintenance and repair of a private sewerage system under subsection (1) shall be payable by the owner of the sewerage system.

[8

Vesting of sewerage systems in Government

8.—(1) Where any premises have been set aside or are being used for any sewerage system pursuant to any development proposals approved by the competent authority and the owner of the premises has agreed to surrender the premises to the Government, the Board may, by an instrument in the form approved by the Registrar of Titles or the Registrar of Deeds, as the case may be, declare that the premises shall vest in the Government.

[8/2001]

(2) Any plan prepared by the Board under subsection (1) shall comply with the requirements of the Land Titles Act (Cap. 157) in respect of registered land and of the Registration of Deeds Act (Cap. 269) in respect of other land and shall show thereon the premises which will vest in the Government.

[8/2001]

(3) Any declaration made by the Board under subsection (1) shall be published in the *Gazette*.

[8/2001]

(4) Where any premises that are to be vested in the Government under this section consist of premises included in separate lots already set aside for a sewerage system, the declaration shall be registered against those lots under the provisions of the Land Titles Act in respect of registered land and under the provisions of the Registration of Deeds Act in respect of other land.

(5) Where any premises that are to be vested in the Government under this section consist of premises included in an existing lot or lots, those premises forming the sewerage system shall be excised from the existing lot or lots and the declaration shall be registered in respect of the excised portions under the provisions of the Land Titles Act in respect of registered land and under the provisions of the Registration of Deeds Act in respect of other land.

(6) Upon the registration of a declaration made under subsection (1), the premises including every sewerage system installed therein shall vest in the Government free from all encumbrances and, where the premises are held under a statutory land grant, such vesting shall not be deemed to create a subdivision within the meaning of the State Lands Act (Cap. 314).

(7) No compensation shall be payable for any premises that are vested in the Government under this section.

(8) Where any premises are vested in the Government under this section, the Board may take possession of the premises and proceed to demolish and remove any building or portion of any building forming part thereof.

[9

[8/2001]

Vesting of private sewers in Government

9.—(1) The Board may, at any time, declare that any private sewer shall, as from such date as may be specified in the declaration, vest in the Government.

[8/2001]

(2) Before the Board makes a declaration under subsection (1), it shall give a notice in writing of his intention to do so to the owner of the sewer in question.

[8/2001]

(3) Any owner who is aggrieved by a notice issued by the Board under subsection (2) may appeal to the Minister within 28 days from the date of service of the notice.

[8/2001]

(4) Upon the hearing of an appeal under this section, the Minister may allow the appeal and the Board shall not take any further action on the matter.

[8/2001]

(5) Where no appeal has been filed within the time specified in subsection (3) or an appeal has been dismissed by the Minister, the Board may proceed to make the declaration.

[8/2001]

(6) Where a declaration has been made in respect of a private sewer under this section, the Board shall maintain the sewer and, if it sees fit, enlarge, alter or otherwise improve such sewer and may discontinue, close up or destroy such sewer as it thinks necessary as if it is a sewer constructed by the Board.

[8/2001]

(7) If by reason of the alteration, discontinuation, closing up or destruction of any private sewer vested in the Government under this section any person is deprived of the lawful use of the sewer, the Board shall with due diligence provide some other sewer as effectual as the one so deprived.

[8/2001]

(8) The declaration under subsection (1) shall be registered against those lands under the provisions of the Land Titles Act (Cap. 157) in respect of registered land and under the provisions of the Registration of Deeds Act (Cap. 269) in respect of other land.

[10

Sewerage systems to be kept in proper order at cost of owners

10.—(1) Every sewerage system shall be altered, repaired and kept in proper order at the cost and expense of the owner of the premises to

which the sewerage system belongs or for the use of which it is maintained.

(2) The Board may, by notice in writing, require the owner of any premises referred to in subsection (1) to do one or both of the following at his own cost and expense:

- (a) to have the sewerage system inspected and tested in such manner and at such intervals as the Board may require, to ensure that the sewerage system is kept in good order;
- (b) to alter, repair or put in good order the sewerage system in such manner as the Board may require.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(3) Where the Board is satisfied that it is immediately necessary to alter, repair or put in good order and condition any sewer, drain-line, privy, cesspool, septic or other tank, toilet, urinal, water-closet, sink, bath or lavatory or any appurtenance thereof, any authorised officer may enter upon any premises and carry out or cause to be carried out such alterations, repairs, works, acts or things as are necessary for any of those purposes.

[8/2001]

(4) Any expenses reasonably and necessarily incurred in carrying out the works referred to in subsection (3) may be recovered from the owner of the premises when the work is completed.

[11

(5) If the owner of any premises to which a sewerage system belongs or for the use of which it is maintained, fails to keep the sewerage system in proper order in contravention of subsection (1), he shall be guilty of an offence.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Sewerage systems, etc., not to be constructed or altered without Board's certificate or approval

11.—(1) Subject to subsection (5), no person shall construct, alter, discontinue or close up any sewerage system or sanitary facilities without obtaining, in respect of those works, a clearance certificate or the approval of the Board under section 33.

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Where any sewerage system or sanitary facilities are constructed, altered, discontinued or closed up in contravention of subsection (1), the Board may serve upon any person specified in subsection (3) a notice requiring him to demolish or make good the sewerage system or sanitary facilities to its original state and condition within such time as may be specified in the notice.

[8/2001]

(3) The notice referred to in subsection (2) may be served on all or any of the following persons:

- (a) any person who does or causes or permits to be done any of the acts referred to in subsection (1);
- (b) the owner or occupier of the premises to which the sewerage system or sanitary facilities referred to in subsection (2) belong or for the use of which they are maintained;
- (c) any person having power to construct, alter or demolish the sewerage system or sanitary facilities referred to in subsection (2).

(4) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

[12

(5) This section shall not apply to —

- (a) the repair, replacement or removal of any existing sanitary facility in a building; or
- (b) the addition of any sanitary appliance within the existing sanitary facilities in a building.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Buildings without adequate sanitary facilities

12.—(1) If it appears to the Board that any building or part thereof is without adequate sanitary facilities, it may by notice in writing require the owner or occupier of the building —

- (a) to provide or install such sanitary facilities as the Board may consider adequate; or

(b) to alter, improve, demolish or resite any sanitary facilities in such manner as the Board may require, within such time as may be specified in the notice.

[8/2001]

(2) All sanitary facilities provided or installed in any building shall be maintained, repaired and renewed to the satisfaction of the Board by the owner or occupier of the building.

[8/2001]

(3) All costs and expenses incurred for the provision, installation, alteration, demolition or re-siting of sanitary facilities under this section shall be borne by the owner or occupier of the building or the relevant part of the building.

[13]

Power to inspect sewerage systems and sanitary facilities

13.—(1) Any authorised officer may inspect any sewerage system or sanitary facilities and may, for that purpose, at any time enter upon any premises under section 44 and cause the ground to be opened.

[8/2001]

(2) In carrying out any inspection under this section, the authorised officer shall cause as little damage as possible, and the Board shall make reasonable compensation for any damage done to any premises, sewerage system or sanitary facilities affected by the inspection.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Duty to enquire before excavation

13A.—(1) Any person who digs, bores, trenches, grades, excavates, tunnels or breaks any ground with any mechanical equipment, tool or explosive, or allows his employee or agent to do so, without first —

- (a) obtaining from the Board the relevant drainage plan or sewerage plan or other plans or records to ascertain the location of any public sewerage system or part thereof that may be interfered with by such works;
- (b) carrying out trial trenches to physically ascertain the location of any such public sewerage system or part thereof that may be interfered with by such works; and

- (c) complying with such other requirements as the Board may specify to protect any such public sewerage system or part thereof within the vicinity of such works,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a), any person may, upon payment of the prescribed fee, be permitted to inspect and take copies of the relevant plans or records maintained by or on behalf of the Board.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Works likely to affect sewer or sewerage system not to be carried out without Board's certificate or approval

14.—(1) No person shall —

- (a) erect or cause or permit to be erected any object, building or structure over, across or adjacent to any sewer or sewerage system; or
- (b) carry out or cause to be carried out any other works which adversely affect or are likely to adversely affect any sewer or sewerage system, directly or indirectly,

without obtaining, in respect of those works, a clearance certificate or the approval of the Board under section 33.

(2) Where any object, building or structure is erected or any other works are carried out in contravention of subsection (1), the Board may, by notice in writing, require any person specified in subsection (3) to do one or more of the following:

- (a) cease immediately the carrying on of those works, either indefinitely or for such period as may be specified by the Board;
- (b) carry out such works as the Board may think necessary to protect the sewer or sewerage system within such time as may be specified in the notice;
- (c) demolish and remove the object, building or structure within such time as may be specified in the notice.

(3) The notice referred to in subsection (2) may be served on all or any of the following persons:

- (a) the person who does or causes or permits to be done any of the acts referred to in subsection (1);
- (b) the owner or occupier of the premises where the object, building or structure referred to in subsection (1)(a) is erected;
- (c) the owner or occupier of the premises where the works referred to in subsection (1)(b) are being carried out;
- (d) any person having power to demolish the object, building or structure referred to in subsection (1)(a).

(4) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

(5) In this section, “works”, in addition to its meaning in section 2, includes —

- (a) any act of excavating earth, rock or other material (by whatever means) in connection with —
 - (i) any work for or relating to the construction, reconstruction, extension, renovation, alteration, demolition or repair of any building, structure, road, railway, bridge, viaduct, flyover, drain or sewer;
 - (ii) any work for or relating to the laying, inspecting, repairing or renewing of any main, pipe, cable, fittings or other apparatus; or
 - (iii) any soil investigation work;
- (b) any act of boring, dredging, jacking, levelling, piling or tunnelling on or under any premises or street by any mechanical means;
- (c) the driving or sinking of any earth rod, casing or tube into the ground; and

- (d) any storage or placement of large construction equipment, construction materials and stockpiling of earth or heavy objects.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Sanitary facilities, sewerage system and sewage and trade effluent removal for farms

15.—(1) The Board may, by notice in writing, direct the owner or occupier of any premises used as a farm —

- (a) to install, operate and maintain such sanitary facilities and sewerage system; and
- (b) to provide and maintain such facilities for the removal, treatment and disposal of waste matter,

as the Board may require.

[8/2001]

(2) The Board may at any time apply such system of sewage and trade effluent removal as he thinks fit to any premises used as a farm.

[16

[8/2001]

Trade effluent not to be discharged into public sewerage system without Board's approval

16.—(1) No person shall discharge, or cause or permit to be discharged, any trade effluent into any public sewerage system or any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system, except —

- (a) with the prior written approval of the Board; and
- (b) in accordance with the conditions of that approval, if any, and any regulations under this Act providing for the control of such discharge.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(1A) Subsection (1) shall not apply to the discharge of any dangerous or hazardous substance or any trade effluent containing any dangerous or hazardous substance under section 16A.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Where any trade effluent had been discharged from any premises into any public sewerage system or any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that the occupier of the premises has discharged or causes or permits to be discharged the trade effluent in contravention of subsection (1).

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(3) The presumption under subsection (2) shall not be rebutted unless the occupier of the premises proves that he had taken all reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to prevent the contravention of subsection (1).

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(4) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$1,000 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(5) A person shall not be guilty of an offence under this section if he proves that —

- (a) the discharge of trade effluent was made in an emergency to avoid danger to life or property; and
- (b) he informed the Board of the discharge in writing as soon as was reasonably practicable.

[17

[8/2001]

(6) The court may order any person who is convicted of an offence under this section to pay the cost incurred by the Board, or by the owner or occupier of any premises, in carrying out any work to restore the public sewerage system to its original condition, or to clear the public sewerage system of the trade effluent so discharged.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Prohibition on discharge of dangerous or hazardous substance or trade effluent containing dangerous or hazardous substance

16A.—(1) No person shall discharge, or cause or permit to be discharged, any dangerous or hazardous substance or any trade

effluent containing any dangerous or hazardous substance into any public sewerage system or any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system, except —

- (a) with the prior written approval of the Board; and
- (b) in accordance with the conditions of that approval, if any, and any regulations under this Act providing for the control of such discharge.

(2) Where any dangerous or hazardous substance or any trade effluent containing any dangerous or hazardous substance has been discharged from any premises into any public sewerage system or any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system in contravention of subsection (1), it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that the occupier of the premises has discharged, or caused or permitted to be discharged, the substance or trade effluent.

(3) The presumption under subsection (2) shall not be rebutted unless the occupier of the premises proves that he had taken all reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to prevent the contravention of subsection (1).

(4) Where, in any proceedings for an offence under subsection (5) or (6), it is proved that the accused had committed any act referred to in subsection (1), it shall be presumed, unless the contrary is proved, that the accused knew that the substance discharged was a dangerous or hazardous substance or that the trade effluent discharged contained a dangerous or hazardous substance, as the case may be.

(5) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable —

- (a) on the first conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$2,000 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction; and
- (b) on a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$2,000

for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

(6) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) and thereby causes —

- (a) injury or death to any person;
- (b) damage to any public sewerage system which renders the sewerage system inoperable; or
- (c) severe disruption to the process of treating sewage or trade effluent or the process of water reclamation,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$200,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

(7) The court may order any person who is convicted of an offence under this section to pay the cost incurred by the Board, or by the owner or occupier of any premises, in carrying out any work —

- (a) to restore the public sewerage system to its original condition;
- (b) to resume the process of treating sewage or trade effluent or the process of water reclamation; or
- (c) to clear the public sewerage system of the dangerous or hazardous substance or the trade effluent containing the dangerous or hazardous substance so discharged.

(8) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, by regulations provide for the control or prohibition of the discharge of dangerous or hazardous substances or trade effluent containing dangerous or hazardous substances into any public sewerage system or any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system.

(9) For the purposes of this section and section 17, a substance is a dangerous or hazardous substance if —

- (a) it is of a nature that is likely, either alone or in combination with or by interaction with another substance —

- (i) to pose a health hazard to or cause danger to the safety and health of any person at work at, on or in any part of any public sewerage system;
 - (ii) to cause a fire or an explosion in any public sewerage system;
 - (iii) to damage any public sewerage system to the extent that would render the sewerage system inoperable; or
 - (iv) to severely disrupt —
 - (A) the proper working of any public sewerage system, or any facility, machinery or equipment related or connected to the sewerage system;
 - (B) any process of treating trade effluent, sewage or other waste for reuse;
 - (C) any process of water reclamation; or
 - (D) the proper working of any facility, machinery or equipment used for any process referred to in sub-paragraph (B) or (C); or
- (b) it is prescribed as a dangerous or hazardous substance.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Order to stop discharge of dangerous or hazardous substance or trade effluent containing dangerous or hazardous substance

17.—(1) Where it appears to the Board that any dangerous or hazardous substance or any trade effluent containing any dangerous or hazardous substance is being or has been discharged into any public sewerage system or any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system, the Board may, by order, direct the occupier of any premises from which the substance or trade effluent is being or has been discharged or any other person who, in the opinion of the Board, has caused or permitted the discharge —

- (a) to immediately cease the discharge of such substance or trade effluent into the public sewerage system or the drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(b) to take such steps as may be specified in the order to treat the substance or trade effluent which is complained of; and
[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(c) to immediately cease the carrying on of any process or work which produces the substance or trade effluent, either indefinitely or until such steps as are specified in the order have been taken to treat the substance or trade effluent before it is discharged into the public sewerage system or the drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system.

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Any person who is aggrieved by an order made by the Board under subsection (1) may, within 14 days from the date of service of the order, appeal in writing to the Minister, who may confirm, vary or rescind the order.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(3) Notwithstanding that an appeal has been made under subsection (2), an aggrieved person shall comply with the order pending the outcome of the appeal to the Minister and the Board may exercise the powers conferred under subsection (5).

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(4) If any person to whom an order under subsection (1) is directed fails to comply with the order (referred to in this section as the person in default), he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$40,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine of \$1,000 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(5) Where the person in default fails to comply with the order made under subsection (1), an authorised officer may, at all reasonable hours in the day or night, or at such other time as may be agreed with the owner or occupier of the premises to which the order relates, enter the premises and take such measures and execute such work as may be necessary to secure compliance with the order but without prejudice to

any proceedings that may be taken against the person in default under subsection (4).

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(6) Any expenses reasonably incurred by the Board under subsection (5) may be recovered from the person in default and section 48 and, if that person is the owner of the premises, section 50 shall apply in respect of those expenses.

[8/2001]

(7) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prohibit the Board from carrying out any works specified in any such order at the request of a person who has been served with the order upon an undertaking by that person to pay the costs and expenses in executing the works.

[18

[8/2001]

Discharge of sewage, etc.

18.—(1) Any person who, without the written approval of the Board, discharges or causes or permits the discharge of any sewage, waste matter or effluent into any public sewerage system or any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system —

(a) directly or indirectly, from any conveyance or mobile toilet;
or

(b) by opening a manhole or an inspection chamber or any other means of access to the public sewerage system,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Subsection (1) shall not apply to any discharge from a conveyance or mobile toilet which may be lawfully made into any public sewer or public sewerage system under any regulations made under this Act.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(3) In this section —

“conveyance” includes any vessel, train, aircraft, vehicle or trailer, and any fixed or floating platform in a marine environment;

“mobile toilet” means a sanitary convenience which is not part of a sewerage system, including a sanitary convenience which is mobile or in a conveyance.

[19]

Restrictions on use of public sewerage system

19.—(1) No person shall throw, empty or pass, or suffer or permit to be thrown or emptied or passed, into any public sewerage system, or into any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewerage system —

(a) any matter or other substance likely to injure the public sewerage system, sewer or drain-line, to interfere with the free flow of its contents or to affect prejudicially the treatment and disposal of its contents; or

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(b) any sand, earth, gravel, cement, cement grout, brick, timber, wood or other building materials.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

(3) The court may order any person who is convicted of an offence under this section to pay the cost incurred by the Board or the owner or occupier of any premises who has carried out any work to restore the sewerage system to its original condition, or to clear the sewerage system of any obstruction to the free flow of its contents.

[20

[8/2001]

Damage caused to public sewer, etc.

20.—(1) Any person who —

- (a) causes any damage to any public sewer or any drain-line or sewer communicating with a public sewer; or
- (b) renders any public sewer or private sewer a nuisance,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$40,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.

(2) Any person who —

- (a) does any act which renders any public sewer or private sewer dangerous or injurious to health;
- (b) causes any damage to a pipe of 0.9 metres or greater in diameter that is part of or connected to the public sewerage system; or
- (c) does any act which disrupts the operation of or causes damage to any sewage treatment plant, sewage treatment works or water reclamation facility,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$200,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

(3) In any proceedings for an offence under subsection (1) or (2), it shall be a defence for the person charged under either of those subsections to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence, but this defence shall not be available to a person who may be liable by virtue of section 67A.

(4) If it appears to the Board that there has been a contravention of subsection (1) or (2), the Board may, by notice in writing, require any person who has caused the damage or done any of the acts referred to in subsection (1) or (2), or such other person who may be liable under either of those subsections by virtue of section 67A, to carry out such works as may be necessary to restore the sewerage system to its original condition within such time as may be specified in the notice.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

PART IV
DRAINAGE

Board may construct storm water drainage systems

21.—(1) The Board may cause to be made, constructed and maintained any storm water drainage system or drain.

[8/2001]

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Board may carry the drainage system across, through, along or under any premises or any cellar, basement or vault of any building.

[8/2001]

(3) Any authorised officer may enter any premises under section 44 to execute any work necessary for the purposes of subsection (1).

[8/2001]

(4) In carrying out any works under this section, the Board shall cause as little damage as possible, and shall make reasonable compensation for any damage done to any affected premises or building.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Vesting of private drains in Government

22.—(1) The Board may at any time declare that any private drain shall, as from the date specified in the declaration, vest in the Government.

[8/2001]

(2) Before the Board makes a declaration under subsection (1), it shall give notice of his intention to do so to the owner of the drain in question.

[8/2001]

(3) Any owner who is aggrieved by a notice issued by the Board under subsection (2) may appeal to the Minister within 28 days from the date of service of the notice.

[8/2001]

(4) Upon the hearing of an appeal under this section, the Minister may allow the appeal and the Board shall not take any further action on the matter.

[8/2001]

(5) Where no appeal has been filed within the time specified in subsection (3), or an appeal has been dismissed by the Minister, the Board may proceed to make the declaration.

[8/2001]

(6) Where a declaration has been made in respect of a private drain under this section, the Board —

(a) shall maintain the drain and, if he sees fit, enlarge, alter or otherwise improve such drain; and

(b) may discontinue, close up or destroy such drain as it thinks necessary as if it is a drain constructed by the Board.

[8/2001]

(7) If by reason of the alteration, discontinuation, closing up or destruction of any drain vested in the Government under this section, any person is deprived of the lawful use of the drain, the Board shall with due diligence provide some other drain as effectual as the one so deprived.

[8/2001]

(8) The declaration under subsection (1) shall be registered against those lands under the provisions of the Land Titles Act (Cap. 157) in respect of registered land and under the provisions of the Registration of Deeds Act (Cap. 269) in respect of other land.

[23

Storm water drainage system not to be constructed or altered without Board's certificate or approval

23.—(1) No person shall construct, alter, discontinue or close up any storm water drainage system or drain without obtaining in respect of those works, a clearance certificate or the approval of the Board under section 33.

[8/2001]

(2) Where any storm water drainage system or drain has been constructed, altered, discontinued or closed up in contravention of subsection (1), the Board may serve upon any person specified in subsection (3) a notice requiring him to demolish or make good the storm water drainage system to its original condition within such time as may be specified in the notice.

[8/2001]

(3) The notice referred to in subsection (2) may be served on all or any of the following persons:

- (a) any person who does or causes or permits to be done any of the acts referred to in subsection (1);
- (b) the owner or occupier of the premises to which the storm water drainage system or drain referred to in subsection (2) belongs or for the use of which it is maintained;
- (c) any person having power to construct, alter or demolish the storm water drainage system or drain referred to in subsection (2).

(4) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

[24

Drains and drainage reserves not to be interfered with

24.—(1) No person shall —

- (a) erect or place any structure or object in, above or across any drain;
- (b) cause any obstruction to the flow of any storm water drainage system; or
- (c) erect, construct or lay within any drainage reserve any fence, retaining wall, foundation, manhole, pipe, cable mains or any obstruction or structure (whether temporary or permanent),

without obtaining in respect of those works, a clearance certificate or the approval of the Board under section 33.

[8/2001]

(2) If any structure or object is erected or placed or any obstruction is caused in contravention of subsection (1), the Board may serve upon any person specified in subsection (3) a notice requiring him to remove the structure, object or obstruction and make good the drain or drainage reserve to its original state and condition within such time as may be specified in the notice.

[8/2001]

(3) The notice referred to in subsection (2) may be served on all or any of the following persons:

- (a) any person who does or causes or permits to be done any of the acts referred to in subsection (1);
- (b) the owner or occupier of the premises where the structure, object or obstruction referred to in subsection (2) are located;
- (c) any other person having power to remove the structure, object or obstruction referred to in subsection (2).

(4) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

[25

Premises without proper drainage

25. If it appears to the Board that any premises are without proper drainage, it may by notice in writing require the owner or occupier of the premises to remedy the defect within such time as may be specified in the notice.

[26

[8/2001]

Works affecting storm water drainage system

26.—(1) No person shall carry out or cause to be carried out —

- (a) any works which affect or are likely to affect any storm water drainage system, drain or drainage reserve, directly or indirectly; or
- (b) any works that could lead to the discharge of silt directly or indirectly into any storm water drainage system, drain or drainage reserve,

without obtaining, in respect of those works, a clearance certificate or the approval of the Board under section 33.

(2) Every person given a clearance certificate or approval by the Board to carry out any works under subsection (1) shall —

- (a) notify the Board in writing before the commencement of the works;
- (b) provide adequate silt control measures in accordance with any standards or guidelines issued by the Board before the commencement and for the duration of the works; and
- (c) comply with the conditions of the clearance certificate or approval, if any.

(3) The Board may prescribe standards and limits in respect of any discharge of silt into any storm water drainage system, drain or drainage reserve.

(4) Where any works are or have been carried out in contravention of subsection (1) or (2), or as a result of which silt is discharged which exceeds the standards or limits prescribed under subsection (3), the Board may do all or any of the following:

- (a) by notice in writing require the person who carried out, or caused to be carried out, the works, or the owner or occupier of any premises in respect of which the works were carried out, to do one or more of the following:
 - (i) to cease immediately the carrying out of those works, either indefinitely or for such period as may be specified by the Board;
 - (ii) to carry out such works as the Board may think necessary to restore the storm water drainage system, drain or drainage reserve to its original condition or to protect the storm water drainage system, drain or drainage reserve, within such time as may be specified in the notice;
 - (iii) to take such measures as the Board may think necessary to comply with subsection (2)(b) or (c) or adhere to the standards or limits prescribed under subsection (3);
- (b) revoke the clearance certificate or approval given, or suspend the clearance certificate or approval for such period as the Board considers reasonable.

(5) Any person who —

- (a) contravenes subsection (1) or (2);
- (b) without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with a notice of the Board under subsection (4)(a); or
- (c) carries out any works after the clearance certificate or approval relating to those works has been revoked or during such period as the clearance certificate or approval is suspended under subsection (4)(b),

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50,000.

(6) Where the person on whom the notice is served under subsection (4)(a) fails to comply with the notice, an authorised officer may, at all reasonable hours in the day or night, or at such other time as may be agreed with the owner or occupier of the premises to which the notice relates, enter the premises and take such measures and execute such work as may be necessary to secure compliance with the notice but without prejudice to any proceedings that may be taken against that person under subsection (5).

(7) Any expenses reasonably incurred by the Board under subsection (6) may be recovered from the person who failed to comply with the notice served on him under subsection (4)(a), and section 48 and, if that person is the owner of the premises, section 50 shall apply in respect of those expenses.

(8) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the Board from carrying out any works specified in any notice under subsection (4)(a) at the request of a person who has been served with the notice upon an undertaking by that person to pay the costs and expenses in executing the works.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Construction and maintenance of private drains

27.—(1) The Board may authorise any person to construct any drain through, across or under any private property or to alter, repair or otherwise deal with such drain as the Board thinks fit.

[8/2001]

(2) Any authorisation given under subsection (1) may be subject to such conditions as the Board thinks fit.

[8/2001]

(3) Before authorising any person to construct any drain under subsection (1), the Board shall serve a notice on the owner and occupier of the premises —

(a) describing the nature of the works to be carried out; and

(b) stating that if no objection is received within 28 days from the date of service of the notice, the works will commence on the date specified in the notice.

[8/2001]

(4) A person served with a notice under subsection (3) shall submit his objections, if any, to the Board within the prescribed time and the Board may allow or disallow the objections or allow the objections in part.

[28
[8/2001]

Areas not provided with effectual drainage

28.—(1) If it appears to the Board that any area is not provided with effectual drainage, the Board may cause to be executed such drainage works as it considers necessary to provide for the desired drainage of the area.

[8/2001]

(2) The Board may as it thinks just apportion the costs and expenses of such drainage works among the owners of the premises in such area and recover the sums apportioned from such owners.

[29
[8/2001]

Vesting of drainage reserves in Government

29.—(1) The Board may by an instrument in the form approved by the Registrar of Titles or the Registrar of Deeds, as the case may be, declare that a drainage reserve described in the instrument shall vest in the Government.

[8/2001]

(2) Any plan prepared by the Board for the purposes of subsection (1) shall comply with the requirements of the Land Titles Act (Cap. 157) in respect of registered land and of the Registration of Deeds Act (Cap. 269) in respect of other land and shall show thereon the drainage reserve which will vest in the Government.

[8/2001]

(3) Any declaration made by the Board under subsection (1) shall be published in the *Gazette*.

[8/2001]

(4) Where any drainage reserve that is to be vested in the Government under this section consists of premises included in separate lots already set aside as part of the drainage reserve, the declaration shall be registered against those lots under the provisions of the Land Titles Act in respect of registered land and under the provisions of the Registration of Deeds Act in respect of other land.

(5) Where any drainage reserve that is to be vested in the Government under this section consists of premises included in an existing lot or lots, those premises forming the drainage reserve shall be excised from the existing lot or lots and the declaration shall be registered in respect of the excised portions under the provisions of the Land Titles Act in respect of registered land and under the provisions of the Registration of Deeds Act in respect of other land.

(6) Upon the registration of the declaration made under subsection (1), the premises forming the drainage reserve shall vest in the Government free from all encumbrances.

(7) Where the premises are held under a statutory land grant, such vesting under this section shall not be deemed to create a subdivision within the meaning of the State Lands Act (Cap. 314).

(8) No compensation shall be payable for any premises that are vested in the Government under this section.

(9) When any drainage reserve is vested in the Government under this section, the Board may take possession of the drainage reserve and proceed to demolish and remove any building or portion of any building forming part thereof.

[30

[8/2001]

Damage caused to storm water drainage system, etc.

30.—(1) Any person who causes any damage to any storm water drainage system or drain shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$40,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.

(2) The Board may, by notice in writing, require any person who contravenes subsection (1) to carry out any works to restore the storm water drainage system or drain to its original condition within such time as may be specified in the notice.

[31
[8/2001]

PART V**PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES****Prohibition on extraction of water**

31.—(1) No person shall, without the approval of the Board, construct any works for taking or intercepting water from any place or sea, within the territorial limits of Singapore.

[8/2001]

(2) An application for approval to construct any works for taking or intercepting water from any such place or sea shall be made in such form as the Board may require.

[8/2001]

(3) In considering an application made under this section, the Board may require the applicant to furnish such particulars and plans for the proposed works as it thinks fit.

[8/2001]

(4) In granting any approval under this section, the Board may impose such conditions as it thinks fit.

[8/2001]

(5) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months.

(6) This section shall not apply to the lands, buildings and installations of the Board.

[32

[8/2001]

PART VI

REGISTRATION, CODES OF PRACTICE AND CERTIFICATES OR APPROVAL FOR WORKS

Codes of practice and specifications

32.—(1) The Board may issue or approve and from time to time review —

- (a) specifications for sewerage works, sewerage systems, sanitary facilities, sanitary appliances, drains, drainage works, silt control measures, storm water drainage systems and works which are likely to affect any sewerage system or storm water drainage system; and
- (b) codes of practice for professionals engaged in the design and construction of any of the matters referred to in paragraph (a).

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) If any provision in any code of practice or specifications issued or approved by the Board under subsection (1) is inconsistent with any regulation made under this Act, such provision shall, to the extent of the inconsistency —

- (a) have effect subject to such regulation; or
- (b) where appropriate having regard to such regulation, not have effect.

[8/2001]

(3) The Board may, generally or for such time as the Board may specify, exempt any premises or class of premises from the requirements of any provision in any code of practice or specifications issued or approved by it.

[33

[8/2001]

Certificates or approval required for works

33.—(1) Every application for a clearance certificate or for the approval of the Board for the purposes of section 11, 14, 23, 24 or 26, shall be made in such form and manner as the Board may require.

[8/2001]

(2) There shall be payable for the processing of every application referred to in subsection (1) such fees as may be prescribed.

(3) Every applicant for a clearance certificate or the approval of the Board shall submit plans of the works to which the application relates in such form and manner as the Board may require to such filing authority as the Board may designate.

[8/2001]

(4) The Board may require the plans referred to in subsection (3) —

(a) to be made by a qualified person; and

(b) to show such details or specifications as the Board may determine.

[8/2001]

(5) Upon receipt of an application referred to in subsection (1), the Board may —

(a) where it has determined that a clearance certificate is required in respect of the works to which the application relates, issue or refuse to issue a clearance certificate in respect of those works; or

(b) where it has determined that a clearance certificate is not required in respect of any particular works or class of works, grant or refuse to grant his approval in respect of those works.

[8/2001]

(6) The Board may, before issuing a clearance certificate or granting his approval under subsection (5), give a direction in writing to the applicant to comply, within such time as may be specified in the direction, with such requirements as it may specify for the purposes of this Act.

[8/2001]

(7) In issuing a clearance certificate or granting its approval under subsection (5), the Board may impose such conditions as it thinks fit, including a condition that only sanitary appliances, pipes and fittings of a type approved by the Board shall be used.

[9/2002 wef 01/08/2002]

(8) Any person for whom any works, in respect of which a clearance certificate has been issued under subsection (5), have been carried out and completed shall apply in such form and manner as the Board may require for a compliance certificate.

[8/2001]

(9) If after considering the report and certificate submitted under section 35(1)(e) and (f), the Board is satisfied that the works have been completed in accordance with the plans submitted under subsection (3) and any conditions or requirements imposed by the Board under subsection (7) or (10), it may issue the compliance certificate subject to such conditions as it thinks fit.

[8/2001]

(10) The Board may, before issuing a compliance certificate, give a direction in writing to the applicant to comply, within such time as may be specified in the direction, with such requirements as it may specify for the purposes of this Act.

[34

[8/2001]

Supervision of works by qualified person

34.—(1) No person shall commence or carry out any works for which a clearance certificate is required under this Act except under the supervision of a qualified person.

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$1,000 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

[35

Duties of qualified person

35.—(1) Every qualified person appointed to supervise any works for the purposes of section 34 shall —

- (a) take all reasonable steps and exercise due diligence in supervising and inspecting the works to ensure that those works are carried out in accordance with this Act and with the plans submitted under section 33(3) and with any condition imposed by the Board under that section;
- (b) notify the Board of any contravention of the provisions of this Act pertaining to the works;
- (c) keep and maintain at the premises on which works are carried out such documents, books and records as may be prescribed;
- (d) carry out such inspection of the works as the Board may require;
- (e) submit to the Board at the prescribed times such reports and certificates as may be prescribed; and
- (f) on completion of the inspection referred to in paragraph (d), submit to the Board a certificate containing such particulars as the Board may require.

[8/2001]

(2) Any qualified person who contravenes any of the requirements of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$500 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

(3) In any prosecution against a person for an offence under subsection (1)(b), it shall be a defence for him to prove to the satisfaction of the court that he could not reasonably have discovered the contravention referred to in the charge.

(4) Any qualified person who —

- (a) being required by this Act to make or produce to the Board any plan, declaration, certificate, report, record, notice or other document; or
- (b) for the purpose of obtaining any certificate or approval from the Board under this Act or of establishing any fact relevant to the administration of this Act,

makes or produces any plan, declaration, certificate, report, record, notice or other document which —

- (i) is false in a material particular;
- (ii) has not been made by the person by whom it purports to have been made; or
- (iii) has been in any way altered or tampered with,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[8/2001]

(5) If any qualified person appointed for the purposes of section 34 becomes unwilling or unable, whether by reason of the termination of his appointment or for any other reason, to carry out his duties under the Building Control Act (Cap. 29) or this Act, he shall, within 14 days of his ceasing to carry out his duties, notify the Board of the fact.

[36

[8/2001]

36. [Deleted by Act 9/2002]

37. [Deleted by Act 9/2002]

PART VII

ENFORCEMENT

Power to demand names and addresses

38.—(1) Any police officer, authorised officer or such other person as may be authorised by the Board for the purposes of this section (referred to in this section as an authorised person) who reasonably

believes that any person has committed an offence under this Act may require that person to furnish evidence of his identity, and the person shall thereupon furnish such evidence of his identity as may be required by the police officer, authorised officer or authorised person, as the case may be.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(1A) Any police officer, authorised officer or authorised person may require any owner or occupier of any premises to furnish his name and address and such other proof of identity or particulars as the police officer, authorised officer or authorised person may require for the purposes of this Act.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Any person who, upon being required by any police officer, authorised officer or authorised person to give his name and address or to furnish any particulars under subsection (1) or (1A), refuses to do so or wilfully mis-states his name and address or furnishes false particulars shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000.

[39

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Powers of Board to examine and secure attendance

39.—(1) Any authorised officer may —

(a) examine orally any person who appears to be acquainted with the facts and circumstances of matters under this Act —

(i) whether before or after that person or anyone else is charged with an offence in connection with the matter; and

(ii) whether or not that person is to be called as a witness in any inquiry, trial, or other proceeding in connection with the matter;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(aa) require any person to furnish any information or produce any document in the possession of that person in connection with the matter, and may, without payment,

inspect, keep, copy or make extracts from such document;
and

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

- (b) require by order in writing the attendance before himself of any person, being within the limits of Singapore, who, from information given or otherwise, appears to be acquainted with the facts and circumstances of matters under this Act and that person shall attend as so required.

[8/2001]

(2) Any person examined under this section shall be bound to state truly what he knows of the facts and circumstances concerning matters under this Act, except that he need not say anything that might expose him to a criminal charge, penalty or forfeiture.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(3) A statement made by any person examined under this section shall —

- (a) be reduced to writing;
- (b) be read over to him;
- (c) if he does not understand English, be interpreted for him in a language that he understands; and
- (d) after correction, if necessary, be signed by him.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(4) If any person fails to attend as required by an order under subsection (1)(b), the Board may report such failure to a Magistrate who may thereupon issue a warrant to secure the attendance of that person as required by the order.

[40

[8/2001]

Powers of arrest

40.—(1) The Board, an authorised officer or a police officer may arrest any person, whom the Board or officer has reason to believe has committed an offence under this Act, if the name and address of the person are unknown to the Board or officer and —

- (a) the person declines to give his name and address; or

(b) there is reason to doubt the accuracy of the name and address, if given.

[8/2001]

(2) A person arrested under this section may be detained until his name and address are correctly ascertained.

(3) No person so arrested shall be detained longer than is necessary for bringing him before a court.

[41

Default in compliance with notice

41.—(1) Where a person on whom a notice under section 4(5) or (6), 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 20, 23, 24, 25 or 30 is served fails to comply with the notice within the time specified in the notice —

(a) he shall, unless he satisfies the court that he has used all due diligence to comply with the notice, be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000; and

(b) any authorised officer may enter the premises under section 44 and execute the works specified in the notice.

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Any expenses reasonably incurred by the Board under subsection (1)(b) may be recovered from the person in default and section 48 and, if that person is the owner of the premises, section 50 shall apply in respect of those expenses.

[8/2001]

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the Board from carrying out any works specified in any such notice at the request of a person who has been served with the notice upon an undertaking by that person to pay the costs and expenses in executing the works.

[42

[8/2001]

Appeal against notice

42.—(1) Where a person is aggrieved by a notice, referred to in section 26(4)(a) or 41(1) served on him —

(a) he may, within 14 days from the date of service of the notice and in the prescribed form and manner, appeal to the Minister; and

(b) until after the determination or abandonment of the appeal —

(i) no liability to a fine under section 26(5) or 41(1)(a), as the case may be, shall arise except as provided for in this section; or

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(ii) no proceedings shall be taken or work done under the notice.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Where an appeal is brought under this section, the Minister may dismiss or allow the appeal unconditionally or subject to such conditions as he considers fit, and any decision made by the Minister on the appeal shall be final.

(3) Where an appeal has been brought under this section, and the Minister is of the opinion that —

(a) the non-execution of the notice will be injurious or dangerous to the public health; and

(b) the immediate execution of the notice will not cause any injury to the person against whom the notice was made which cannot be compensated by damages,

the Minister may authorise the Board immediately to execute the work.

[8/2001]

(4) The Board shall, if it carries out the work and the appeal is successful, pay the costs and expenses of the work and any damages sustained by the appellant by reason of the work.

[8/2001]

(5) The Board may, if it carries out the work and the appeal is dismissed or abandoned, recover the costs and expenses of the work

from the appellant and section 48 and, if the appellant is the owner of the premises in respect of which the notice was made, section 50 shall apply to any sum recoverable from him hereunder.

[43
[8/2001]

Board may act in cases of emergency

43. Where the Board considers it necessary in the case of an emergency, the Board may direct the immediate execution of any work or the doing of any act being any work or act authorised under this Act which is in his opinion necessary for the service and safety of the public.

[44
[8/2001]

Power of entry

44.—(1) Any authorised officer may, for the purposes of this Act, enter any premises at all reasonable hours in the day or night, or at such other time as may be agreed with the owner or occupier of the premises, with such assistants and workmen as are necessary for the purpose of making any survey, inspection or soil investigation and executing any work authorised by this Act.

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Unless otherwise provided in this Act, any authorised officer shall, before entering any premises under subsection (1), give reasonable notice in writing to the owner or occupier of the premises of his intention to enter any premises under subsection (1).

[8/2001]

(3) Unless the consent of the occupier has been obtained, no person shall enter any dwelling-house in actual occupation under this section without 6 hours' previous notice to the occupier.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the Minister may declare that any class of premises is liable to inspection at any time of the day or night, and thereupon any authorised officer may, with such assistants and workmen as are necessary, at any time of the day or night and

without notice, enter using such force as may be necessary and search or inspect any premises of the class specified in the declaration.

[45

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(5) The Board shall not be liable to pay any person any fee, charge or expense on account of such entry to any premises or of anything done in any part of the premises under this Act.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Power to enter and investigate

44A. Notwithstanding section 44, if an authorised officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that an offence under this Act has been committed, he may, at any time without notice, enter any premises and do all or any of the following for the purpose of investigating the suspected offence under this Act:

- (a) search the premises and take possession of any thing found therein and reasonably believed to be or to contain dangerous or hazardous substances or to be otherwise connected to the commission of the offence;
- (b) require the production of records, certificates, notices and documents relating or reasonably believed to relate to any dealing in or with dangerous or hazardous substances or the discharge of trade effluent containing dangerous or hazardous substances or to the offence, wherever and by whomsoever kept, and take and retain extracts or copies thereof;
- (c) take and retain samples of any materials (whether solid, liquid, gaseous or vapour) found for the purpose of analysis;
- (d) take such photographs as the authorised officer thinks necessary for the purposes of the investigation;
- (e) require any person whom the authorised officer finds in the premises to produce his identity card or other identification papers for inspection for the purpose of the investigation.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Power to enter on land adjacent to works

45.—(1) Any authorised officer may, with such assistants and workmen as are necessary, enter upon any land, adjoining or being within 100 metres of any works authorised to be executed by this Act —

- (a) for the purpose of depositing upon that land any soil, gravel, sand, lime, brick, stone or other materials; or
- (b) for any other purposes connected with the formation of those works,

without making any previous payment, tender or deposit and doing as little damage as may be in the exercise of the powers under this subsection.

[8/2001]

(2) The Board shall make reasonable compensation —

- (a) to the owner and the occupier for such temporary occupation or temporary damage of the land from time to time and as often as any such temporary occupation is taken or any such temporary damage done; and
- (b) to the owner for the permanent injury, if any, to the land.

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(3) Before the Board makes any use of any land under subsection (1), it shall give 7 days' notice of its intention to the owner and the occupier of the land.

[46

[8/2001]

Penalty for obstructing Board in his duty

46. Any person who —

- (a) hinders or obstructs the Board, any authorised officer or other person authorised by the Board in the performance or execution of its or his duty or of any thing which it or he is empowered or required to do under this Act; or

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

- (b) interferes with any work authorised to be done under this Act,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.

[47
[8/2001]

Making of false statements, etc.

46A.—(1) Any person who, when giving any information to the Board or making any application under or for the purposes of any provision of this Act, makes any statement which he knows to be false in a material particular, or who recklessly makes any statement which is false in a material particular, shall be guilty of an offence.

- (2) Any person who —

(a) wilfully or fraudulently procures or attempts to procure for himself or for any other person any licence or approval under this Act by making or producing or causing to be made or produced any false or fraudulent representation or declaration either verbally or in writing; or

(b) knowingly aids or assists anything under paragraph (a),

shall be guilty of an offence.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Appeal to Minister against notices, orders, directions, etc.

47.—(1) Any person who is aggrieved by any notice, order, direction, authorisation or declaration by the Board under this Act or, unless otherwise expressly provided, any regulations made thereunder may appeal in writing to the Minister within 14 days from the date of service of the notice, order, direction or authorisation or within 28 days from the date of service of the declaration.

[8/2001]

(2) Upon any appeal under subsection (1), the execution of the notice or the doing of the thing required to be done shall be stayed.

(3) The Minister may confirm, vary or rescind the notice, order, direction, authorisation or declaration or direct that the thing shall be

proceeded with, varied or abandoned, as the case may be, or make any order which the Board competent to make under this Act and the decision of the Minister shall be final.

[8/2001]

(4) This section shall not apply to —

(a) a notice or declaration under section 9 or 22;

(b) an authorisation under section 27;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(c) an order under section 17; or

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(d) a notice under section 4(5) or (6), 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, or 30.

[48]

PART VIII

COMPENSATION, DAMAGES, FEES, COSTS AND EXPENSES

Compensation, damages, costs and expenses to be determined by Magistrate's Court or District Court

48.—(1) Except as otherwise provided, in all cases where compensation, damages, fees, costs or expenses are provided under this Act to be paid, the amount and, if necessary, the apportionment of the amount and any question of liability shall, in case of dispute, or failure to pay, be summarily ascertained and determined by a Magistrate's Court or, if the amount claimed exceeds the Magistrate's Court limit, by a District Court.

(2) In any proceeding under subsection (1), the Magistrate's Court or the District Court may —

(a) inquire whether those expenses ought to be borne wholly or in part by some person other than the defendant in the proceedings;

(b) make such order concerning the expenses or their apportionment as appears to the Court to be just; and

- (c) where those expenses were incurred under section 26(6) or 41(1)(b) by the Board in carrying out any works specified in a notice, inquire whether any requirement specified in the notice was reasonable.

[8/2001]

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(3) The Magistrate's Court or the District Court shall not order the expenses or any part thereof to be borne by any person other than the defendant in the proceedings unless the Court is satisfied that the other person has had due notice of the proceedings and an opportunity of being heard.

(4) If the amount of compensation, damages, fees, costs or expenses is not paid by the party liable to pay it within 7 days after demand, that amount may be reported to a Magistrate's Court or a District Court and recovered in the same way as if it were a fine imposed by a Magistrate's Court or District Court.

(5) An appeal shall lie to the High Court from any decision of a Magistrate's Court or a District Court under this section, and the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68) shall apply, with the necessary modifications, to all such appeals.

[49]

Occupier may execute work where owner defaults in execution of work

49.—(1) Whenever default is made by an owner of any premises in the execution of any work required under this Act to be executed by him, an occupier of the premises may, with the approval of the Board, cause the work to be executed.

[8/2001]

(2) The expense of the work executed under subsection (1) shall be paid to the occupier by the owner of the premises or the amount may be deducted out of the rent from time to time becoming due from him to the owner, and the occupier may, in the absence of any special agreement to the contrary, retain possession until that expense has been fully reimbursed to him.

[50]

Recovery of costs and expenses payable by owners

50.—(1) All sums payable by or recoverable from the owner of any premises in respect of costs and expenses incurred by the Board in connection with the execution of any work which are under this Act recoverable from an owner of any premises shall, subject and without prejudice to any other rights of the Board, be a first charge on the premises in respect of which the costs and expenses were incurred.

[8/2001]

(2) In addition to any other remedies conferred by this Act, any such sum may be recovered in the manner provided in this section, and the person or persons liable to pay it shall be the owner or owners at the time when the work was completed.

(3) If any such sum remains unpaid at the expiration of the prescribed time, a notice shall be served upon the person or any one of the persons, if more than one, liable to pay it, calling on him to pay that sum together with a fee of such amount as may be prescribed for the cost of the notice, within 15 days from the date of service of such notice.

(4) Without prejudice to section 62, if no person liable to pay the sum can be found, such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served by the posting thereof at the office of the Board and by fixing a copy thereof on some conspicuous part of the premises in respect of which the costs and expenses were incurred.

[8/2001]

(5) At the expiration of the period of 15 days or such further period as may be allowed by the Board, if any such sum or part thereof remains due and unpaid, it shall be deemed to be arrears and may be recovered as provided in section 52.

[8/2001]

(6) The charge mentioned in subsection (1) shall attach, and the powers and remedies conferred by subsections (2) to (5) shall become exercisable, as from the date of completion of the work.

(7) Notwithstanding any change in the ownership or occupation of the premises after the completion of the work, the charge and the powers and remedies referred to in subsection (6) may be exercised

against the premises or against any movable property or crops for the time being found thereon.

(8) An occupier who, when requested by or on behalf of the Board to state the name of the owner of the premises, refuses or wilfully omits to disclose or wilfully mis-states the name shall, unless he shows cause to the satisfaction of the court for his refusal or mis-statement, be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000.

[51

[8/2001]

Recovery of costs and expenses by instalments

51.—(1) When the Board has incurred costs and expenses in or about the execution of any work, which are, under this Act, payable by or recoverable from an owner, the Board may —

- (a) recover those costs and expenses in the manner provided in section 50; or
- (b) if it thinks fit, make an arrangement with the owner for the payment of such instalments as will be sufficient to defray the whole amount of the costs and expenses with interest thereon at the prescribed rate, within a period not exceeding 10 years.

[8/2001]

(2) Upon default in payment of any instalment or interest upon the date appointed for payment thereof by any such arrangement the whole of the balance then outstanding of that amount, together with any interest in arrears, shall immediately become due and payable and, notwithstanding any change in the ownership or occupation of the premises since the date of the arrangement, may be recovered by as provided in section 50.

[52

Proceedings for recovery of arrears

52.—(1) For the recovery of arrears the Board shall have and may exercise, either successively or concurrently, in addition to any other remedies conferred by this Act, the following powers:

- (a) the Board may issue a warrant of attachment and may seize by virtue thereof any movable property and crops of any person liable to pay the arrears and may also seize any movable property or crops to whomever it belongs which are found on the premises in respect of which the arrears are due and may, after service of the prescribed notice, sell the same by public auction in any prescribed manner;
- (b) the Board may, by notice of sale to be served or published in the prescribed manner, declare his intention to sell, at the expiration of 3 months from the date of the notice of sale, the premises in respect of which the arrears are due and, if, at the expiration of that period, the arrears have not been paid or satisfied, the Board may sell by public auction, in lots or otherwise, the whole of the premises or such portion thereof or such interest therein as he considers sufficient for the recovery of the arrears and costs.

[8/2001]

(2) The Board shall not proceed under subsection (1)(b) to sell the premises in respect of which the arrears are due, or any portion thereof or interest therein, where there is or are upon the premises and liable to be seized and sold under subsection (1)(a) any movable property or crops belonging to the owner of a value estimated by the Board to be sufficient to realise the sum required to satisfy the arrears and costs.

[8/2001]

(3) Any tenant, sub-tenant or occupier who, in order to avoid the seizure or sale of his property for arrears payable by the owner of the premises, pays the arrears and costs may thereafter, in the absence of any written agreement to the contrary, deduct the amount so paid by him from the rent due or to become due by him to his immediate landlord on account of the premises or such part thereof as is held or occupied by him, and may retain possession until that amount has been fully reimbursed to him whether by deduction from the rent or otherwise.

(4) Any tenant or sub-tenant who has reimbursed, whether by allowing a deduction from his rent or otherwise, any sub-tenant or occupier holding or occupying under him the amount so paid by that sub-tenant or occupier shall have a similar right to deduct the amount

from the rent due or to become due to his immediate landlord and to retain possession until similarly reimbursed.

(5) The receipt of any authorised officer for any amount so paid by any such tenant, sub-tenant or occupier shall be deemed an acquittance in full for the like amount of rent.

[8/2001]

(6) If any premises in respect of which arrears are due, or any such movable property or crops as are mentioned in subsection (1) or the proceeds of sale thereof are already in the custody of the law under any process of execution whereby the Board is unable to exercise the remedies conferred by this section, the Board —

(a) may notify the Sheriff or the bailiff of the court concerned of the amount of the arrears; and

(b) shall be entitled without obtaining a judgment to be paid that amount out of the proceeds of sale of the premises or property in priority to the judgment debtor and to the judgment creditor and to any other creditor except the Government.

[8/2001]

(7) A certificate from the Board shall, unless it is disputed by the judgment debtor, be conclusive evidence of the amount of such arrears, and, in case of dispute, the amount shall be summarily determined by a Magistrate's Court.

[8/2001]

(8) Where any premises which is not registered land is sold under subsection (1)(b), the Board shall have the power to execute the conveyance and the purchaser of the premises shall not be concerned to inquire whether the provisions of this Act relating to the sale and the conveyance have been complied with nor otherwise to inquire into the regularity or validity of the sale and conveyance.

[8/2001]

(9) Section 144 of the Land Titles Act (Cap. 157) shall apply, with the necessary modifications, to any premises sold under subsection (1)(b) which is registered land.

[53

Attachment

53.—(1) The attachment referred to in section 52(1)(a) may be made by a person appointed for the purpose by the Board who shall give public notice of the attachment in the prescribed manner and shall take an inventory of the property attached.

[8/2001]

(2) A person appointed under subsection (1) shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of the Penal Code (Cap. 224).

(3) Such a person may break open in the day time any house or building for the purpose of effecting the attachment.

[54]

Application of proceeds of sale

54.—(1) The proceeds of a sale under section 52(1) and (2) shall be applied in the first place in satisfaction of the arrears together with interest thereon at the prescribed rates and costs.

(2) Where there is any surplus remaining, the Board shall —

(a) if satisfied as to the right of any person claiming the surplus, pay the amount thereof to that person; or

(b) if not so satisfied, shall hold the amount in trust for the person who may ultimately succeed in due course of law in establishing his title thereto.

[8/2001]

(3) If no title is established to the surplus within a period of 5 years from the date of the sale, it shall be paid into the funds of the Board.

[55]

[8/2001]

Title acquired by purchaser at sale by Board

55.—(1) The purchaser at a sale held under section 52(1)(b) shall be deemed to have acquired the right offered for sale free from all encumbrances created over it and from all subordinate interests derived from it except such as are expressly reserved by the Board at the time of sale.

[8/2001]

(2) The Board shall notify, by an advertisement published in the *Gazette*, the result of the sale and the conveyance to the purchaser of the property or right offered for sale.

[56
[8/2001]

Costs of proceedings for recovery of arrears

56. All costs of any proceedings for the recovery of arrears may be recovered as if they formed part of the arrears.

[57

Power to stop sale

57. If any person having any interest in any property liable to be sold at any time previous to such sale tenders to the Board the arrears with interest and costs, the Board shall thereupon desist from all further proceedings in respect of the sale.

[58
[8/2001]

Application to court

58.—(1) If any person whose movable property, crop or land has been attached or offered for sale disputes the attachment or sale, he may apply to the High Court or a District Court for an order to stay the proceedings.

(2) The High Court or District Court, after hearing the Board and making such further inquiry as is necessary, shall make such order as is just.

[8/2001]

(3) No application shall be entertained by the High Court or District Court under this section unless the applicant has deposited in Court the amount of the arrears and costs or furnished security for them to the satisfaction of the Court.

[59

Liability of transferor who has not given notice

59.—(1) Every person who sells or transfers any property in respect of which costs and expenses have been incurred by the Board in

connection with the execution of any work which are, under this Act, recoverable from the owner or owners thereof shall continue to be liable for the payment of all the costs and expenses payable in respect of the property and for the performance of all other obligations imposed by this Act upon the owner of the property which become payable or are to be performed at any time before such notice of transfer as is required by section 19 of the Property Tax Act (Cap. 254) has been given.

[8/2001]

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) shall affect the liability of the purchaser or transferee to pay such costs and expenses in respect of the property or affect the right of the Board to recover such costs and expenses or to enforce any obligation under this Act.

[60

[8/2001]

Proceedings where occupier opposes execution of work

60.—(1) If the occupier of any premises prevents the owner thereof from carrying into effect in respect of the premises any of the provisions of this Act after notice of his intention to do so has been given by the owner to that occupier, a Magistrate's Court, upon proof thereof and upon application by the owner, may —

- (a) make an order in writing, requiring the occupier to permit the owner to execute all such works with respect to the premises as are necessary for carrying into effect the provisions of this Act; and
- (b) if it thinks fit, order the occupier to pay to the owner the costs relating to the application or order.

(2) If after the expiration of 8 days from the date of the order the occupier continues to refuse to permit the owner to execute the works, the occupier shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 for every day during which he so continues to refuse.

(3) Every such owner shall, during the continuance of such refusal, be discharged from any penalty to which he might otherwise have become liable by reason of his default in executing the works.

[61]

PART IX

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Notices, orders and other documents may be given by authorised officer

61. All notices, orders, receipts, warrants and other documents of any nature which the Board is empowered to give by this Act may, subject to the direction of the Board, be given by any authorised officer on behalf of the Board.

[62

[8/2001]

Service of notices, etc.

62.—(1) Every notice, order or document required by or authorised by this Act to be served on any person may be served —

- (a) by delivering it to that person or by delivering it at the last known place of residence of that person to some adult member of his family or his employee;
- (b) by leaving it at the usual or last known place of residence or place of business of that person in an envelope addressed to that person; or
- (c) by forwarding it by post in a prepaid letter addressed to that person at his usual or last known place of residence or place of business.

(2) A notice, order or document required by or authorised by this Act to be served on the owner or occupier of any premises shall be deemed to be properly addressed if addressed by the description of the “owner” or “occupier” of the premises without further name or description.

(3) A notice, order or document required by or authorised by this Act to be served on the owner or occupier of any premises may be served by delivering it or a true copy thereof to some adult person on the premises or, if there is no such person on the premises to whom it can with reasonable diligence be delivered, by affixing the notice, order or document to some conspicuous part of the premises.

(4) A notice, order or document required by or authorised by this Act to be served on any body corporate may be served —

- (a) by delivering it to the secretary or other like officer of the body corporate at its registered office or principal place of business; or
- (b) by sending it by registered post addressed to the body corporate at its registered office or principal place of business.

[63]

General penalties

63. Unless a penalty has otherwise been expressly provided, any person who —

- (a) contravenes any of the provisions of this Act; or
- (b) fails to comply with any condition subject to which any clearance certificate is issued or approval is granted by the Board under section 33,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$15,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both, and in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$500 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

[64

[8/2001]

Furnishing of deposits

64.—(1) Where any clearance certificate is issued or approval is granted by the Board under section 33 for the execution of any works, the Board may require a deposit to be furnished by the person

applying for the certificate or approval to secure the execution of the works.

[8/2001]

(2) Where any such works are not executed to the satisfaction of the Board, it may utilise the deposit or any part thereof to make good the defects.

[65

[8/2001]

Inaccuracies in document

65.—(1) No misnomer or inaccurate description of any person, premises, building, holding, street or place named or described in any document prepared, issued or served under, by virtue of or for the purposes of this Act shall in any way affect the operation of this Act as respects that person or place if that person or place is so designated in the document as to be identifiable.

(2) No proceedings taken under or by virtue of this Act or any such regulations shall be invalid for want of form.

[66

Evidence of analyst

66.—(1) The Board may appoint persons who in its opinion are qualified to be analyst for the purposes of this Act.

[8/2001]

(2) Subject to subsection (3), a certificate of an analyst appointed under subsection (1) stating that he has analysed or examined a substance and stating the result of his analysis or examination is admissible in evidence in any proceedings for an offence under this Act as prima facie evidence of the facts stated in the certificate and of the correctness of the result of the analysis or examination.

(3) A certificate of an analyst referred to in subsection (2) shall not be received in evidence in pursuance of that subsection unless the person charged has been given a copy of the certificate together with reasonable notice of the intention of the prosecution to produce the certificate as evidence in the proceedings.

(4) Where a certificate of an analyst appointed under subsection (1) is admitted in evidence under subsection (2), the person charged may

require the analyst to be called as a witness for the prosecution and the analyst may be cross-examined as if he had given evidence of the matters stated in the certificate.

(5) For the purposes of this section, a document purporting to be a certificate referred to in subsection (2) on its production by the prosecution shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to be such a certificate.

[67]

Offence by body corporate

67. Where a body corporate is guilty of an offence under this Act, and that offence is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any act or default on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of that body corporate, or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, he as well as the body corporate shall be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

[68]

Liability for offence committed by agent or employee

67A. Where an offence under this Act is committed by any person acting as an agent or employee of another person, or being otherwise subject to the supervision or instruction of another person for the purposes of any employment in the course of which the offence was committed, that other person shall, without prejudice to the liability of the first-mentioned person, be liable for that offence in the same manner and to the same extent as if he had personally committed the offence unless he proves to the satisfaction of the court that the offence was committed without his consent or connivance and that it was not attributable to any neglect on his part.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

Jurisdiction of Courts

68. A District Court or a Magistrate's Court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine all proceedings under this Act and shall, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Criminal Procedure

Code (Cap. 68), have power to impose the full punishment in respect of any offence under this Act.

[69]

Saving of prosecutions under other written laws

69. Nothing in this Act shall prevent any person from being prosecuted under any other written law for any act or omission which constitutes an offence under this Act or from being liable under that other law to any other or higher punishment or penalty than that provided by this Act, except that no person shall be punished twice for the same offence.

[70]

Composition of offences

70.—(1) The Board may, in his discretion, compound any offence under this Act as may be prescribed as being an offence which may be compounded by collecting from the person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence a sum of money not exceeding \$5,000.

[8/2001]

(2) On payment of such sum of money, no further proceedings shall be taken against that person in respect of that offence except that any compensation, damages, fees, costs or expenses which are provided to be paid under this Act shall remain payable.

(3) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Board from issuing any further notice referred to in section 41 in respect of the same matter to the person who has paid such sum of money.

[71]

[8/2001]

Protection from liability

71.—(1) No liability shall lie against the Government, the Board or any authorised officer by reason of the fact that any works are carried out in accordance with the provisions of this Act or that such works or plans of the works are subject to inspection, approval or certification by the Board or any authorised officer.

[8/2001]

(2) Nothing in this Act shall make it obligatory for the Board or any authorised officer to inspect any building or works or the site of any proposed works to ascertain whether the provisions of this Act are complied with or whether any plans, certificates, reports, notices or other documents submitted to the Board are accurate.

[8/2001]

(3) No matter or thing done by any authorised officer shall, if it were done in good faith for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, subject him personally to any action, liability, claim or demand.

[8/2001]

(4) Where the Board or any authorised officer provides any information to any person in respect of any building or works by electronic or other means, neither the Board nor any authorised officer shall be liable for any loss or damage suffered by any person by reason of any error or omission of whatever nature or howsoever caused, including any defect or breakdown in the equipment used for providing the information, if such error or omission is made in good faith and in the ordinary course of duties of the Board or authorised officer.

[72

[8/2001]

Fees

72.—(1) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, prescribe fees and charges for the purposes of this Act including fees for —

- (a) the collection and disposal of sewage, waste matter and effluent;
- (b) the maintenance and operation of any sewerage system; and
- (c) the late payment of fees.

[8/2001]

(2) Unless otherwise provided in this Act, the fees and charges prescribed under subsection (1) in respect of any premises shall be payable by the occupier of the premises and, where the premises are vacant, the owner of the premises.

(3) The calculation of any fees and charges prescribed under subsection (1)(a) and (b) may be based on —

- (a) the number of sanitary appliances which are installed in the premises;
- (b) the amount of water consumed in the premises; or
- (c) any other estimate of the amount of sewage, waste matter and effluent discharged into the sewerage system.

(4) All fees, charges and composition fines collected under this Act shall be paid into the funds of the Board.

[8/2001 wef 01/04/2001]

[73

[8/2001]

Exemption

73. The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, by notification in the *Gazette*, exempt, either generally or for such time as it may specify, any person, thing, premises or works or any class of person, thing, premises or works from any provision of this Act.

[74

[8/2001]

Regulations

74.—(1) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations for or in respect of every purpose which the Board considers necessary or convenient for carrying out the provisions of this Act and, in particular, may —

- (a) prescribe the standards and specifications for, and the requirements for the use of, private sewers and sewerage systems (including drain-lines and their connections to public sewers), public sewers, water reclamation facilities, sanitary appliances, sanitary facilities and storm water drainage systems;

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

- (b) regulate the discharge of trade effluent into sewers;

- (c) prohibit the discharge of silt or debris into storm water drainage systems;
[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]
- (d) prescribe additional requirements for the protection of the public sewerage system;
[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]
- (e) prescribe fees and charges for the purposes of this Act, including for —
- (i) the disposal (including any treatment necessary or incidental to the disposal) of any used water, sewage, waste matter or effluent discharged from any premises that fails to meet the standards imposed by the Board under or pursuant to this Act on such used water, sewage, waste matter or effluent; and
 - (ii) the late payment of prescribed fees and charges;
[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]
- (f) prescribe such service relating to sewage provided by the Board for which the Board may charge prices by way of agreement with the person to whom the service is provided in lieu of prescribing such prices; and
[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]
- (g) prescribe anything required or permitted to be prescribed under this Act.
[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(1A) The Board may, in making any regulations, provide that any contravention of the regulations shall be an offence punishable with a fine not exceeding \$15,000 or with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or with both and, in the case of a continuing offence, with a further fine not exceeding \$500 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

[Act 10 of 2012 wef 01/09/2012]

(2) Any regulations made under this Act shall be presented to Parliament as soon as possible after publication in the *Gazette*.

[75

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE ACT
(CHAPTER 294)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Sewerage and Drainage Act. It is not part of this Act.

1. Act 10 of 1999 — Sewerage and Drainage Act 1999

Date of First Reading	:	20 January 1999 (Bill No. 3/99 published on 21 January 1999)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	11 February 1999
Date of commencement	:	1 April 1999

2. 2000 Revised Edition — Sewerage and Drainage Act

Date of operation	:	30 December 2000
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3. Act 8 of 2001 — Public Utilities Act 2001

(Consequential amendments made by)

Date of First Reading	:	22 February 2001 (Bill No. 7/2001 published on 23 February 2001)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	16 March 2001
Date of commencement	:	1 April 2001

4. 2001 Revised Edition — Sewerage and Drainage Act

Date of operation	:	31 December 2001
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5. Act 9 of 2002 — Sewerage and Drainage (Amendment) Act 2002

Date of First Reading	:	3 May 2002 (Bill No. 14/2002 published on 4 May 2002)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	8 July 2002
Date of commencement	:	1 August 2002

6. Act 47 of 2004 — Building Maintenance and Strata Management Act 2004

(Consequential amendments made to Act by)

Date of First Reading	:	6 February 2004 (Bill No. 6/2004 published on 7 February 2004)
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Date of Second and Third Readings : 19 October 2004
Date of commencement : 1 April 2005
(item (15) in the Fifth Schedule)

7. Act 10 of 2012 — Sewerage and Drainage (Amendment) Act 2012

Date of First Reading : 8 March 2012
(Bill No. 9/2012 published on
8 March 2012)
Date of Second and Third Readings : 9 April 2012
Date of commencement : 1 September 2012
(except sections 32, 34, 35 and
36(1))

COMPARATIVE TABLE
SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE ACT
(CHAPTER 294)

The following provisions in the 2000 Revised Edition of the Sewerage and Drainage Act have been renumbered by the Law Revision Commissioners in this 2001 Revised Edition.

This Comparative Table is provided for the convenience of users. It is not part of the Sewerage and Drainage Act.

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