

APPENDIX 1

Notes on Rural Development Contribution Schemes & Allied Matters

1. Line Rental Scheme 1950 to 13th April 1953

In the absence of National guidelines, S.W.E.B. instigated Line Rental as an interim measure on new rural consumers requiring an annual payment in addition to consumption payments sufficient to raise the estimated revenue up to 20% annually of the capital expenditure involved in the initial provision of the supply.

e.g. In 1950/51

500 farms and 1,200 rural properties made agreements whereby a farm paid 7/6d (37p) per week, other rural properties averaged 1/9d (9p) per week and cottages 8d (3p) per week.

e.g. In 1951/52

5,000 line rental agreements were concluded with farms averaging, as above, rural properties 2/- (10p) and cottages 9d (4p) per week.

2. Rural Development Contributions 14th April 1953 onwards

The line rental scheme was dropped in favour of R.D. contributions. These averaged 10/6d (52p) per week for farms, 2/4d (12p) per week for a medium sized house, 1/6d (7p) per week for a small cottage.

These amounts ceased to be payable after 7 years and could be discharged on payment of a lump sum. In 1956/57 83% of farms participated in the R.D. contribution scheme.

Revised terms were introduced on 1-4-1958 requiring new consumers to pay the assessed quarterly contribution over 10 years instead of over 7 years as previous.

The R.D. contribution ranged from less than £50 to £450 depending on the size of the farm or dwelling. Payments could be spread over 10 years and most farms were eligible for a Government grant.

3. The Electricity Act of 1957, Section 13

This changed the financial structure by requiring each Board to now:- "so perform their functions as to secure that the revenues of the Board are not less than sufficient to meet the outgoings of the Board properly chargeable to revenue account taking one year with another".

This negated the previous clause when the finances of the industry as a whole could be combined to make a profit.

4. After 1st April 1965

85% of farm electrification had been achieved. The then present contribution system continued where the average connection cost did not exceed £400. When this figure was exceeded, a supplementary contribution was required to equal the excess. If the cost exceeded £700 there was a further supplementary charge by way of a contribution to operating costs of 10% per annum of the excess for ten years. For rural premises, other than farms, supplementary charges were required when connection costs exceeded £150 and £300 respectively.

5. Farms

The S.W.E.B. report for 1957/8 noted that many farms were not even using the initial blocks of higher priced units with which the Board sought to recover some part of the high capital and fixed costs incurred. Accordingly a new Tariff structure was to be formulated to ensure those farms only using a few units pay a fair contribution to the fixed costs of providing and maintaining a supply.

It was also stated that S.W.E.B. has more farms in its area than any other Board, except one. The 1958/9 report stated that a new farm tariff had been published in July 1958 as 1/5 of farms supplied had not used 100 units in the preceding winter quarter.

Therefore a new quarterly minimum farm charge of £3-5-0d (£3.25p) was introduced with all units costing 1 1/8d (approximately 1/2p).

In 1952/53 the average farm revenue was £22

In 1959/60 the average farm revenue was £44

In 1960/61 the average farm revenue was £47

In 1961/62 the average farm revenue was £53

In 1962/63 the average farm revenue was £58

6. Private Generators

The 1967/8 Report contained a suggestion by the Ministry of Power that, where connection costs run into £000s, it would be cheaper to install a generator costing less than £500. The Consultative Committee rejected this idea totally, as this was what many rural premises already had, being totally inadequate for other than lighting and the barest domestic requirements.

APPENDIX II

STATISTICS EXTRACTED FROM S.W.E.B. ANNUAL REPORTS RELATING TO RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Year	No. Farms Connected	Rural Premises Connected	Av. Cost/Consumer £	11 kv O/H Constructed (Miles)	Pole Mtd. Trans. Commis'd	No. of Employees	SWEB Profit (Loss) £	Remarks
Pre Vesting	6330		-					
1948/49	885	?	-	84	?	5817	(106,487)	
1949/50	817	?	90	92	252	6755	784	550 of 950 parishes surveyed
1950/51	911	?	-	173	372	7068	(76,094)	877 parishes now surveyed
1951/52	1174	8000+	-	211	509	7317	(141,809)	Survey of 950 parishes completed. Capital restrictions introduced then re-instated
1952/53	1279	?	98	?	633	6912	(148,967)	
1953/54	1110	9365	-	?	477	6678	98,256	BEA gave £250K to offset above deficits. An average of 21 farms connected every week since vesting day.
1954/55	1200	?	167	?	645	6998	437,044	
1955/56	1448	6791	192	336	1035	7257	506,026	14,700 farms still not on supply.
1956/57	1577	6486	-	374	1206	7572	337,304	5 year plan completed one year early. 5335 farms connected - target 5000.
1957/58	1571	6139	-	509	1498	7772	228,000	12,000 farms now connected 12,000 remain to be connected 71,000 rural premises now connected
1958/59	1373	5298	-	466	1320	8248	612,000	
1959/60	1631	5794	210	508	1468	9091	879,009	60% of farms now connected
1960/61	1501	5134	-	506	1463	9238	448,326	
1961/62	1733	5547	245	607	2064	9520	504,619	74% of farms & 86% of rural premises now connected
1962/63	1668	5467	274	604	2055	9743	1,213,781	
1963/64	1539	4772	290	618	2074	10086	365,605	Would have been a loss but for £518,458 commercial profit. 83% of farms & 93% rural premises now connected.
1964/65	1424	4906	-	598	2328	10465	2,152,270	Target reached in October 1964 88% of farms have mains supply 94% of other rural premises supplied
1965/66	1049	3738	-	479	1860	10214	2,412,063	
1966/67	627	2965	-	394	1651	9464	6,896	Would have been a loss but for commercial profit of £537,000. 29,239 farms connected.
1967/68	463	2493	-	307	1545	8928	4,884,000	
1968/69	451	2067	-	325	1452	8607	4,540,000	95% of farms now connected
1969/70	389	?	-	278	1390	8588	2,760,000	(No specific mention of Rural Development in the
1970/71	398	?	-	254	1392	8396	(2,160,000)	(SWEB Annual Reports
1971/72	309	?	-	260	1138	8210	(1,940,000)	(32,144 farms connected at (31-3-1972.
				These statistics do not totally relate to R.D.				