

Assented to in Her Majesty's name this 29th day of
September, 1969.

BANJA TEJAN-SIE,
Acting Governor-General.

LS

No. 13



1969

Sierra Leone

The Guma Valley Water (Amendment) Act, 1969 Short title.

Being an Act to amend the Provisions of the Guma Valley Water Act, 1961, with respect to Exemption from water Rates and the appointment of Agents for absentee owners of property liable to water rates.

[14th April, 1961.] Date of commencement.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act (except the provisions thereof relating to offences) shall be deemed to have come into operation on the 14th day of April, 1961. Commencement.

Repeal and replacement of section 65 of Act No. 3 of 1961.

2. Section 65 of the Guma Valley Water Act, 1961, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, is hereby repealed and replaced by the following new section—

“Exemption from General Water rate.

65. (1) It shall be lawful for the Company—

- (a) to exempt from payment of the general water rate, the owner of any premises which are not supplied with water by means of a service pipe and are situated in any place not less than two hundred yards from the nearest public standpipe;
- (b) if satisfied by any applicant by evidence on oath and such other evidence as the Company may require, that on the ground of poverty it is desirable so to do, to exempt from payment of the general water rate, the owner of any premises liable for payment of the same, or to reduce the amount for which such owner is liable;
- (c) to exempt wholly or partially from payment of the general water rate, the owner of any premises liable for payment of the same, where such premises have been unoccupied for a period of not less than six months in any financial year of the Company and the owner has given written notice of non-occupation in accordance with the provisions of subsection (3);
- (d) to exempt wholly or partially from payment of the general water rate, the owner of any premises or part thereof, in respect of which the general water rate is payable, which have been demolished or removed during any financial year of the Company, except that no exemption shall be made under this paragraph unless the owner of the premises shall have given written notice of the demolition or removal within thirty days of such demolition or removal;
- (e) to exempt wholly or partially from payment of the general water rate the owner of any premises or part thereof (in respect of which the general water rate is payable) that have been used exclusively or principally as—
 - (i) a church, chapel, mosque, meeting house or other premises used for public religious worship; or

- (ii) a hospital, or
- (iii) a university, college, school or Sunday School, or National Library, or
- (iv) a burial ground or crematorium, where it is proved to the satisfaction of the Company that the intent was not to use the premises for the purpose of gain, or
- (v) a place for any charitable or non-profit making purpose as the Company may consider fit;

except that no exemption shall be granted under this paragraph to any such owner unless—

- (a) in the case of an owner of premises so used before the date of publication of this Act, the owner shall have given notice in writing to the Company within thirty days from that date, that he is the owner of premises used for any of the purposes specified in sub-paragraphs (i) to (v); and
- (b) in the case of an owner of premises so used on or after the date of publication of this Act, but not before, the owner shall have given notice in writing to the Company within thirty days after he commences to use the premises for any of the purposes specified in sub-paragraphs (i) to (v), that he is the owner of premises so used.

(2) The amount of exemption granted under paragraphs (b), (c), (d) and (e) of subsection (1) shall be such proportion of the annual general water rate as the Company may deem fit having regard to all the circumstances.

(3) The owner of any premises liable for payment of the general water rate shall notify the Company in writing—

- (a) where the premises being previously occupied has been unoccupied, of such non-occupation; and
- (b) where the premises being previously unoccupied has become occupied, of such occupation,

not more than thirty days from the date of non-occupation or occupation as the case may be.

(4) Where any owner of premises being previously liable for payment of general water rate has given notice of non-occupation, but fails to give

notice of occupation as required by subsection (3), he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding twenty leones and the Company shall be entitled to levy on and demand from such owner any rates or charges that may be levied or demanded under this Act in respect of the period between such non-occupation and occupation.”.

Amendment of section 67 of Act No. 3 of 1961.

3. Section 67 of the principal Act is hereby amended by the addition at the end thereof of the following—

“Absentee owner to appoint agent for payment of rates.

(8) Any owner of premises in respect of which water rates and charges are payable by him shall, if he intends to be or is actually absent from Sierra Leone for a period exceeding two months, appoint and thereafter throughout such absence maintain some person resident at an address in Sierra Leone to be his agent for the receipt of demands and for the payment of such rates and charges, and he and such agent shall notify the Company in writing of the appointment and of all changes in the identity of such agent and of his address in Sierra Leone. Such agent shall be liable in all respects under this Act to the same extent as his appointor in respect of payments becoming due from the owner to the Company during the period of his agency.”.

Passed in the House of Representatives this 17th day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine.

J. W. E. DAVIES,
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives.

THIS PRINTED IMPRESSION has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has passed the House of Representatives and found by me to be a true and correctly printed copy of the said Bill.

J. W. E. DAVIES,
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives.