Amendment No. 2 to the IChemE Form of Contract for Civil Engineering Works (The Brown Book) Third Edition 2013, including all reprints

The IChemE main contract forms each provide that, in the event of the termination of the Contractor’s employment, the benefit of the subcontracts should be assigned to the Purchaser, if the Purchaser so requires. The recent decision in the case of Energy Works (Hull) Limited v MW High Tech Projects UK Limited (2020) EWHC 2537 (TCC) established that following any such assignment, the Contractor would lose many of his rights to claim against the Subcontractor for any previous breaches of the subcontract. This could cause significant injustice, particularly if the Subcontractor was responsible for the circumstances leading to the termination.

Accordingly, the IChemE has amended the IChemE Brown Book (3rd Edition) General Conditions of Contract from the date of this amendment as set out below:

9. Subcontracting and third party rights

9.1 In Sub-clause (b), delete “if so required by the Purchaser under the Main Contract”

40. Termination by the Contractor for convenience

Replace the whole of Sub-clause 40.3 with the following:

40.3 As soon as practicable after receipt of the Notice of Termination, the Subcontractor shall if so required by the Contractor ensure that his Sub-subcontractors cease work in accordance with and subject to Sub-clause 40.2 so far as possible by the exercise by the Subcontractor of such powers of termination, omission or cancellation as are available to him in the relevant subcontracts.

41. Termination for Subcontractor’s default

41.3 In Sub-clause (c), replace “; and” with “.”
Delete Sub-clause (d)

Those who are planning to enter into a contract on or after the date of this amendment based on the IChemE Brown Book (3rd Edition) should ensure that these amendments are expressly incorporated in the contract.

Dated: 12 January 2021