



Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004

Reprinted as in force on 1 January 2011

Reprint No. 40

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Also see endnotes for information about—

- **when provisions commenced**
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Queensland

Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004

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Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004

[as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before 1 January 2011]

An Act about exploring for, recovering and transporting by pipeline, petroleum and fuel gas and ensuring the safe and efficient carrying out of those activities, and for other purposes

Chapter 1 Preliminary

Part 1 Introduction

1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*.

2 Commencement

- (1) Section 968, to the extent it inserts part 19, division 6, subdivisions 1 and 2 in the Mineral Resources Act commences on the date of assent.
- (2) Otherwise, this Act commences on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

Part 2 Purpose and application of Act

3 Main purpose of Act

- (1) The main purpose of this Act is to facilitate and regulate the

carrying out of responsible petroleum activities and the development of a safe, efficient and viable petroleum and fuel gas industry, in a way that—

- (a) manages the State's petroleum resources—
 - (i) in a way that has regard to the need for ecologically sustainable development; and
 - (ii) for the benefit of all Queenslanders; and
- (b) enhances knowledge of the State's petroleum resources; and
- (c) creates an effective and efficient regulatory system for the carrying out of petroleum activities and the use of petroleum and fuel gas; and
- (d) encourages and maintains an appropriate level of competition in the carrying out of petroleum activities; and
- (e) creates an effective and efficient regulatory system for the construction and operation of transmission pipelines; and
- (f) ensures petroleum activities are carried on in a way that minimises conflict with other land uses; and
- (g) optimises coal seam gas production and coal or oil shale mining in a safe and efficient way; and
- (h) appropriately compensates owners or occupiers of land; and
- (i) encourages responsible land management in the carrying out of petroleum activities; and
- (j) facilitates constructive consultation with people affected by activities authorised under this Act; and
- (k) regulates and promotes the safety of persons in relation to operating plant.¹

(2) In this section—

petroleum activities means—

¹ For what is operating plant, see section 670 (What is an *operating plant*).

- (a) the exploration, distillation, production, processing, refining, storage and transport of petroleum; and
- (b) the distillation, production, processing, refining, storage and transport of fuel gas; and
- (c) authorised activities for petroleum authorities; and
- (d) other activities authorised under this Act for petroleum authorities.

3A Secondary purpose—facilitation of Geothermal Exploration Act 2004 and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2009

- (1) Another purpose of this Act is to facilitate the operation of the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004* and the *Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2009* (the **GHG storage Act**).
- (2) The *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004* is facilitated by applying provisions of this Act about investigations and some of its provisions about enforcement for that Act.
- (3) The GHG storage Act is facilitated by—
 - (a) providing for survey licences to be able to be granted for potential pipelines for GHG streams; and
 - (b) providing for pipeline licences to be able to be granted for GHG streams; and
 - (c) applying provisions of this Act about safety to particular authorised activities for authorities under that Act; and
 - (d) applying provisions of this Act about investigations and some of its provisions about enforcement for that Act.

4 Act binds all persons

- (1) This Act binds all persons, including the State, and, to the extent the legislative power of the Parliament permits, the Commonwealth and the other States.
- (2) However, the Commonwealth or a State can not be prosecuted for an offence against this Act.

5 Application of Act to coastal waters of the State

- (1) This Act applies to the coastal waters of the State as if the coastal waters of the State were part of the State.
- (2) However, this Act does not apply to the adjacent area under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982*.

6 Relationship with Mineral Resources Act

- (1) This section does not apply to a coal or oil shale mining tenement.²
- (2) The Mineral Resources Act does not limit or otherwise affect—
 - (a) the power to grant or renew a petroleum authority over land (the *overlapping land*) in the area of a mining tenement; or
 - (b) a petroleum authority already granted over land (also the *overlapping land*) in the area of an existing mining tenement.
- (3) However—
 - (a) if the petroleum authority is a pipeline licence or petroleum facility licence—it is subject to section 400 or 440; and
 - (b) if the petroleum authority is another type of petroleum authority—it is subject to subsections (4) to (6).
- (4) If the mining tenement is a mining lease (other than a transportation mining lease), an authorised activity for the petroleum authority may be carried out on the overlapping land only if—
 - (a) the mining lease holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
 - (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the following office (the *relevant office*)—

² See also the Mineral Resources Act, section 3A (Relationship with petroleum legislation).

For the relationship between this Act and the Mineral Resources Act in relation to coal or oil shale mining tenements, see chapter 3 (Provisions for coal seam gas).

- (i) the office of the department for lodging the agreement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) the agreement is still in force.
- (5) If the mining tenement is an exploration permit, mineral development licence or transportation mining lease and the petroleum authority is an authority to prospect, an authorised activity for the petroleum authority may be carried out on the overlapping land only if—
- (a) the mining tenement holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity, a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the relevant office and the agreement is still in force; or
 - (b) carrying out the activity does not adversely affect the carrying out of an authorised activity for the tenement that has already started.
- (6) If the mining tenement is an exploration permit or a mineral development licence and the petroleum authority is a petroleum lease, an authorised activity for the mining tenement may be carried out on the overlapping land only if—
- (a) the petroleum lease holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
 - (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the relevant office; and
 - (c) the agreement is still in force.
- (7) In this section—
- transportation mining lease* means a mining lease granted under the Mineral Resources Act, section 316.

6A Relationship with Nature Conservation Act 1992

This Act is subject to the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, sections 27 and 70QA.

6B Relationship with GHG storage Act

The relationship between this Act and the GHG storage Act and authorities under them is provided for under—

- (a) chapter 3A; and
- (b) the GHG storage Act, chapter 4.

7 Act does not affect other rights or remedies

- (1) Subject to sections 294, 563A and 856 and chapter 3, part 8, this Act does not affect or limit a civil right or remedy that exists apart from this Act, whether at common law or otherwise.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), compliance with this Act does not necessarily show that a civil obligation that exists apart from this Act has been satisfied or has not been breached.
- (3) In addition, a breach of an obligation under this Act does not, of itself, give rise to an action for breach of statutory duty or another civil right or remedy.
- (4) This Act does not limit a court's powers under the *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992* or another law.

8 Native title

- (1) This section applies for applying this Act to land where native title exists.
- (2) A native title holder within the meaning of the Commonwealth Native Title Act, section 224 has the procedural and other rights that the holder has under that Act.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies despite any other provision of this Act.

Part 3 Interpretation

Division 1 Dictionary

9 Definitions

The dictionary in schedule 2 defines particular words used in this Act.

Division 2 Key definitions

10 Meaning of *petroleum*

(1) *Petroleum* is—

- (a) a substance consisting of hydrocarbons that occur naturally in the earth's crust; or
- (b) a substance necessarily extracted or produced as a by-product of extracting or producing a hydrocarbon mentioned in paragraph (a); or
- (c) a fluid that—
 - (i) is extracted or produced from coal or oil shale by a chemical or thermal process or that is a by-product of that process; and
 - (ii) consists of, or includes, hydrocarbons; or

Example of a fluid that is petroleum under paragraph (c)—

mineral (f)

- (d) another substance prescribed under a regulation, consisting of, or including, hydrocarbons; or
 - (e) a gas, that occurs naturally in the earth's crust, as prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) A substance mentioned in subsection (1)(c) is a ***gasification or retorting product***.
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that ***petroleum*** does not include any of the following—

- (a) alginite;
 - (b) coal;
 - (c) lignite;
 - (d) peat;
 - (e) oil shale;³
 - (f) torbanite;
 - (g) water.
- (4) A substance does not cease to be petroleum merely because it is injected or reinjected into a natural underground reservoir.
- (5) To remove any doubt, it is declared that, for this Act and petroleum authorities under it, this section preserves, for this Act, the effect of section 150(2) and (3) of the 1923 Act.
- (6) In this section—
- hydrocarbon** means a hydrocarbon in a gaseous, liquid, or solid state.

11 Meaning of *LPG* and *fuel gas*

- (1) **LPG**, also called ‘LP gas’ and ‘liquefied petroleum gas’, is a substance that—
- (a) is in a gaseous state at standard temperature and pressure; and
 - (b) is predominately propane, propylene or butane; and
 - (c) has been processed to be suitable for use by consumers.⁴
- (2) **Fuel gas** is—
- (a) LPG; or
 - (b) processed natural gas; or
 - (c) another substance prescribed under a regulation that is similar to LPG or processed natural gas.

³ See section 300 (What is *oil shale*).

⁴ See section 619 (Who is a *consumer* of fuel gas).

(3) In this section—

processed natural gas means a substance that—

- (a) is in a gaseous state at standard temperature and pressure; and
- (b) consists of naturally occurring hydrocarbons and other substances; and
- (c) is more than half, by volume, methane; and
- (d) has been processed to be suitable for use by consumers of fuel gas.

standard temperature and pressure means an absolute pressure of 101.325kPa at a temperature of 15°C.

12 What is a ***prescribed storage gas***

A ***prescribed storage gas*** is any of the following—

- (a) a gas associated with, or that results from, petroleum production;

Example—

fuel gas produced at a processing plant

- (b) another gas prescribed under a regulation as being suitable for storage in a natural underground reservoir.

Example of gases suitable for storage in a natural underground reservoir—

gases produced from a waste disposal tip

13 What is a ***natural underground reservoir***

(1) A ***natural underground reservoir*** is a part of a geological formation or structure—

- (a) in which petroleum or another gas prescribed under a regulation has accumulated; or
- (b) that is suitable to store petroleum or a prescribed storage gas.

(2) A geological formation or structure mentioned in subsection (1) does not cease to be a natural underground reservoir

merely because it has been modified for petroleum production or storage or to store a prescribed storage gas.

(3) In this section—

geological formation includes a coal seam.

14 What is *exploring* for petroleum

Exploring, for petroleum, is carrying out an activity for the purpose of finding petroleum or natural underground reservoirs.

Examples—

- conducting a geochemical, geological or geophysical survey
- drilling a well
- carrying out testing in relation to a well
- taking a sample for chemical or other analysis

15 When petroleum is *produced*

- (1) For this Act, petroleum is *produced* when it is recovered or released to ground level from a natural underground reservoir in which it has been contained or from which it is extracted.
- (2) If, under the Mineral Resources Act a coal or oil shale mining lease holder mines coal seam gas, for this Act, the lease holder *produces* it.

16 What is a *pipeline*

- (1) A *pipeline* is a pipe, or system of pipes, for transporting—
 - (a) generally—petroleum, fuel gas or prescribed storage gases; and
 - (b) GHG streams; and
 - (c) substances prescribed under section 402.

Note—

There is no automatic right to use a pipeline for a substance mentioned in paragraph (b) or (c). A condition of a pipeline licence may extend the licence holder's rights to include those substances. See sections 401 and 402.

- (2) A reference to a **pipeline** includes—
- (a) a part of the pipeline; and
 - (b) a thing connected to or associated with the pipeline that is necessary for its operation.

Examples of things that may be included in a reference to a pipeline—

- meter stations, scraper stations, valve stations, pumping stations or compressor stations
- plant and equipment, machinery and tanks
- corrosion protection apparatus
- communications equipment and towers

17 What is a *petroleum facility*

- (1) A **petroleum facility** is a facility for the distillation, processing, refining, storage or transport of petroleum, other than a distribution pipeline.

Examples of things that may be a petroleum facility—

- a storage depot
 - a meter station
 - a petroleum processing plant
 - an oil refinery
 - an LPG separation plant
- (2) However, the following facilities are not a petroleum facility—
- (a) a facility constructed or operated under the—
 - (i) *Amoco Australia Pty. Limited Agreement Act 1961*; or
 - (ii) *Ampol Refineries Limited Agreement Act 1964*;
 - (b) a facility for the distillation, processing, refining, storage or transport of petroleum authorised under a—
 - (i) petroleum lease or pipeline licence under this Act; or
 - (ii) 1923 Act petroleum tenure.

18 Types of authority under Act

- (1) The following are the types of authority under this Act—
 - (a) an *authority to prospect*—
 - (i) granted under section 41; or
 - (ii) continued in force under section 83 or 119; or
 - (iii) renewed under section 84;
 - (b) a *petroleum lease*—
 - (i) granted under section 120, 132, 340 or 356 or chapter 15; or
 - (ii) continued in force under section 163; or
 - (iii) renewed under section 164;
 - (c) a *data acquisition authority*, granted under section 178;
 - (d) a *water monitoring authority* granted under section 192;
 - (e) a *survey licence* granted under section 396;
 - (f) a *pipeline licence*—
 - (i) granted under section 410; or
 - (ii) continued in force under section 481; or
 - (iii) renewed under section 482;
 - (g) a *petroleum facility licence*—
 - (i) granted under section 446; or
 - (ii) continued in force under section 481; or
 - (iii) renewed under section 482;
 - (h) a *gas work licence* granted under chapter 9, part 6, division 3, subdivision 1;
 - (i) a *gas work authorisation* granted under chapter 9, part 6, division 3, subdivision 1.
- (2) The authorities, other than a gas work licence or authorisation, are collectively referred to as a *petroleum authority*.
- (3) Authorities to prospect and petroleum leases are collectively referred to as a *petroleum tenure*.

- (4) Survey licences, pipeline licences⁵ and petroleum facility licences are collectively referred to as a *licence*.

19 Who is an *eligible person*

An *eligible person* is—

- (a) an adult; or
- (b) a company or a registered body under the Corporations Act; or
- (c) a government owned corporation.

20 What are the *conditions* of a petroleum authority

- (1) The *conditions* of a petroleum authority are—
- (a) the conditions stated in it from time to time; and
 - (b) the authority holder's obligations under chapters 2 to 5; and
 - (c) any condition of the authority under chapters 2 to 5; and
 - (d) a condition that an authority holder must ensure each person acting for the holder who carries out an authorised activity for the authority complies with its conditions to the extent they apply to the carrying out of the activity.⁶
- (2) A condition mentioned in subsection (1)(b) or (c) is a *mandatory condition* of the authority.

Note—

If a Coordinator-General's condition applies to a petroleum lease, pipeline licence or petroleum facility licence, or proposed petroleum lease, pipeline licence or petroleum facility licence, for a significant project, and the condition conflicts with a mandatory condition for that type of petroleum authority, the Coordinator-General's condition prevails to the extent of the inconsistency. See sections 123A, 412A and 447A.

⁵ For the types of pipeline licence, see section 404 (Licence types—area or point to point).

⁶ For who may carry out an authorised activity for the holder, see section 563 (Who may carry out authorised activity for petroleum authority holder).

21 What are the *provisions* of a petroleum authority

- (1) A reference in this Act to an authority under this Act includes a reference to its provisions.
- (2) A reference in this Act to the provisions of the authority is a reference to its mandatory or other conditions and any thing written in it.

22 What is an *authorised activity*

- (1) An *authorised activity*, for a petroleum authority, is an activity that its holder is, under this Act or the authority, entitled to carry out in relation to the authority.

Notes—

- 1 The provisions of the authority may restrict the carrying out of authorised activities. See sections 42, 85, 123, 165, 178, 396, 412, 447, 484 and 790(3).
 - 2 The carrying out of authorised activities is subject to the restrictions and the authority holder's rights and obligations under chapters 2 to 5. See section 562.
 - 3 For who may carry out an authorised activity for a petroleum authority holder, see section 563.
- (2) An *authorised activity*, for a coal or oil shale mining tenement, is an activity that its holder is, under the Mineral Resources Act or the tenement, entitled to carry out or exercise in relation to the tenement.
 - (3) An *authorised activity*, for a GHG authority, is an activity that its holder is, under the GHG storage Act or the authority, entitled to carry out or exercise in relation to the authority.

23 What is a *work program* for an authority to prospect

- (1) The *work program* for an authority to prospect is its current initial or later work program approved under chapter 2, part 1, division 3, as amended from time to time under chapter 2, part 1, division 3, subdivision 6.

- (2) For subsection (1), the work program is current if the period to which the program applies has started and not ended.⁷

24 What is a *development plan* for a petroleum lease

- (1) The *development plan* for a petroleum lease is its current initial or later development plan approved under chapter 2, part 2, division 4.
- (2) For subsection (1), the development plan is current if the period to which the plan applies has started and has not ended.⁸

Division 3 Land access code

24A Making of code

- (1) A regulation may make a single code for all resource Acts (the *land access code*) that—
- (a) states best practice guidelines for communication between the holders of authorities and owners and occupiers of private land; and
 - (b) imposes on the authorities mandatory conditions concerning the conduct of authorised activities on private land.
- (2) In this section—
- resource Acts* means the following—
- this Act
 - the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004*
 - the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010*

⁷ See also section 56 (Authority taken to have work program until decision on whether to approve proposed work program).

See also sections 83(4) (Continuing effect of authority for renewal application) and 91 (Inclusion of evaluation program in work program).

⁸ See also section 146 (Petroleum lease taken to have development plan until decision on whether to approve proposed development plan).

- the GHG storage Act
- the Mineral Resources Act
- the 1923 Act.

Part 4 Property in petroleum

26 Petroleum the property of the State

- (1) This section is subject to section 28 and chapter 2, part 6, division 3.
- (2) All petroleum as follows is, and always has been, the property of the State—
 - (a) petroleum on the surface of land, if it was produced in the State;
 - (b) petroleum in a natural underground reservoir in the State, other than petroleum in the reservoir produced outside the State and injected or reinjected into the reservoir.
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that—
 - (a) a person does not acquire any property in petroleum merely because the person discovers petroleum in a natural underground reservoir; and
 - (b) subsection (2)(a) applies whether or not the land is freehold or other land; and
 - (c) subsection (2)(b) applies whether or not the natural underground reservoir is in or under freehold or other land.
- (4) This section applies despite any other Act, grant, title or other document in force from the commencement of this section.
- (5) In this section—

the State does not include any of the adjacent area under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982*.

27 Petroleum reservation in land grants

- (1) This section applies to each grant under another Act, other than the 1923 Act, of a right—
- (a) relating to land that, immediately before the grant, was unallocated State land as defined under the *Land Act 1994*; and
 - (b) that is, or was, issued on or after the commencement of the 1923 Act.

Editor's note—

The 1923 Act commenced on 12 November 1923.

- (2) The grant is taken to contain a reservation to the State of—
- (a) all petroleum on or below the surface of the land; and
 - (b) the exclusive right do the following in relation to the land—
 - (i) to enter and carry out any petroleum-related activity;
 - (ii) to authorise, under the provisions of this Act or another Act, others to carry out any petroleum-related activity;
 - (iii) to regulate, under the provisions of this Act or another Act, petroleum-related activities carried out by others.

- (3) In this section—

grant, of a right, includes an authority, lease, licence, permit or other instrument of tenure, however called.

petroleum-related activity means any activity that may be carried out under this Act by the holder of any petroleum authority.

28 Property in petroleum produced

- (1) If a person produces petroleum, it becomes the person's property—
- (a) if the petroleum is produced under this Act; or

- (b) for coal seam gas—if it is mined under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CM or 747.
- (2) However, subsection (1) is subject to—
 - (a) any coordination arrangement or storage agreement to which the person is a party; and
 - (b) any order of the Land Court under section 116; and
 - (c) chapter 2, part 6, division 3.
- (3) Subsection (1) does not cease to apply merely because the petroleum is injected or reinjected into a natural underground reservoir.

Part 5 **General provisions for petroleum authorities**

29 **Graticulation of earth's surface into *blocks* and *sub-blocks***

- (1) A ***block*** is the land resulting from a notional division of the earth's surface—
 - (a) by 2 meridians of longitude 5 minutes apart, each meridian being a multiple of 5 minutes of longitude from the meridian of Greenwich; and
 - (b) by 2 parallels of latitude 5 minutes apart, each parallel being a multiple of 5 minutes of latitude from the equator.
- (2) A ***sub-block*** is the land resulting from a notional division of a block into 25 areas, each sub-block being bounded by 2 meridians 1 minute of longitude apart and 2 parallels of latitude 1 minute of latitude apart.
- (3) Each block and sub-block must be identified in the way approved by the chief executive.⁹

⁹ See however section 298 (Description of petroleum leases for ch 3 and ch 15, pt 3).

30 Petroleum authority does not create an interest in land

The granting of a petroleum authority does not create an interest in any land.

30A Joint holders of a petroleum authority

- (1) A petroleum authority may be held by 2 or more persons as joint tenants or as tenants in common.
- (2) If, under this Act—
 - (a) an application is made for, or for approval to transfer, a petroleum authority for more than 1 proposed holder or transferee; and
 - (b) the application does not show whether the proposed holders or transferees are to hold as joint tenants or as tenants in common; and
 - (c) the application is granted;the chief executive must record in the petroleum register that the applicants hold the authority as tenants in common.
- (3) In this section—

petroleum authority includes a share in a petroleum authority.

Chapter 2 Petroleum tenures and related matters

Notes—

- 1 For the requirement for a petroleum tenure, see section 800.
- 2 Chapters 3 and 3A impose requirements for and restrictions on the granting of and restrictions on authorised activities that may be carried out under particular petroleum tenures. See sections 297 and 392AA.

Part 1 Authorities to prospect

Division 1 Key authorised activities

31 Operation of div 1

- (1) This division provides for the key authorised activities for an authority to prospect.¹⁰
- (2) The authorised activities may be carried out despite the rights of an owner or occupier of land on which they are exercised.
- (3) However, the carrying out of the authorised activities is subject to—
 - (a) section 6; and
 - (b) chapter 3, part 4, division 2; and
 - (c) chapter 3, part 4A; and
 - (d) chapter 3A, part 5; and
 - (e) chapters 5 and 9; and
 - (f) the mandatory and other conditions of the authority; and
 - (g) any exclusion or restriction provided for in the authority on the carrying out of the activities; and
 - (h) any other relevant Act or law.

32 Exploration and testing

- (1) The authority to prospect holder may carry out any of the following activities in the area of the authority—
 - (a) exploring for petroleum;
 - (b) testing for petroleum production;
 - (c) evaluating the feasibility of petroleum production;

¹⁰ For other authorised activities, see part 4 (Water rights for petroleum tenures), chapter 5, part 2, division 3 (Access to private land outside area of petroleum authority) and part 8 (General provisions for conditions and authorised activities).

- (d) evaluating or testing natural underground reservoirs for the storage of petroleum or a prescribed storage gas.
- (2) However, the holder must not carry out any of the following—
 - (a) extraction or production of a gasification or retorting product from coal or oil shale by a chemical or thermal process;
 - (b) exploration for coal or oil shale to carry out extraction or production mentioned in paragraph (a);
 - (c) GHG stream storage.
- (3) The carrying out of activities mentioned in subsection (1), other than exploring for petroleum, is subject to section 73.
- (4) The rights under subsection (1) may be exercised only by or for the holder.¹¹

33 Incidental activities

- (1) The authority to prospect holder may carry out an activity (an *incidental activity*) in the area of the authority if carrying out the activity is reasonably necessary for, or incidental to, an authorised activity under section 32(1).¹²

Examples of incidental activities—

- 1 constructing or operating plant or works, including, for example, communication systems, pipelines associated with petroleum testing, powerlines, roads, separation plants, evaporation or storage ponds, tanks and water pipelines
- 2 constructing or using temporary structures or structures of an industrial or technical nature, including, for example, mobile and temporary camps
- 3 removing vegetation for, or for the safety of, exploration or testing under section 32(1)

11 For who may exercise the rights for the holder, see section 563 (Who may carry out authorised activity for petroleum authority holder).

12 See also part 10 (General provisions for petroleum wells, water supply bores and water observation bores), section 239 (Coordination arrangement overrides relevant leases), chapter 5 (Common petroleum authority provisions) and section 20 (What are the *conditions* of a petroleum authority).

- (2) However, constructing or using a structure, other than a temporary structure, for office or residential accommodation is not an incidental activity.

Note—

For development generally, see the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, chapter 6 (Integrated development assessment system (IDAS)).

Division 2 Obtaining authority to prospect

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

34 Operation of div 2

- (1) This division provides for a process for the granting of authorities to prospect by competitive tender.
- (2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that an authority to prospect can only be granted under this division or division 8, subdivision 2.

Subdivision 2 Competitive tenders

35 Call for tenders

- (1) The Minister may publish a gazette notice (a *call for tenders*) inviting tenders for an authority to prospect.¹³
- (2) The call must state—
- (a) the proposed area of the authority; and
 - (b) that, under section 99,¹⁴ particular land may be excluded land for the authority; and
 - (c) the day and time by which tenders in response to it must be made (the *closing time* for the call); and

13 See however chapter 3, part 3, division 1 (Exclusion of power to call for tenders).

14 Section 99 (Minister's power to decide excluded land)
See also section 100 (Minister may add excluded land).

- (d) that the tenders must be lodged before the closing time for the call at the place stated in the call; and
- (e) that details about each of the following are available at a stated place—
 - (i) any proposed conditions of the authority, other than mandatory conditions, that are likely to impact significantly on exploration in the proposed area;
 - (ii) the required program period for the initial work program for the authority;
 - (iii) any criteria (*special criteria*), other than the work program criteria and capability criteria, proposed to be used to decide whether to grant the authority, or to decide its provisions;¹⁵
 - (iv) the weight proposed to be given to each special criteria, work program criteria and capability criteria.
- (3) The call may state other relevant matters, including, for example, matters relevant to the work program criteria and capability criteria.
- (4) The area of the authority must comply with section 98.
- (5) Subsection (2)(e)(i) does not limit the Minister's power under section 42 to decide conditions of the authority if it is granted.

36 Right to tender

- (1) A person¹⁶ may, by a tender made under section 37, tender for a proposed authority to prospect the subject of a call for tenders.
- (2) However, the tender can not be made—
 - (a) after the closing time for the call; or
 - (b) for only part of the area of the proposed authority.

15 For the capability and work program criteria, see sections 43 (Criteria for decisions) and 49 (Criteria).

16 See however section 41(2) (Deciding whether to grant authority to prospect).

37 Requirements for making tender

A tender for an authority to prospect must—

- (a) be in the approved form; and
- (b) be lodged at the place for lodging tenders for proposed authorities to prospect, as stated in the call; and
- (c) address the capability criteria; and
- (d) include—
 - (i) a statement about how and when the tenderer proposes to consult with, and keep informed, each owner and occupier of private or public land on which authorised activities for the proposed authority are, or are likely to be, carried out;¹⁷ and
 - (ii) a proposed work program that complies with the initial work program requirements;¹⁸ and
- (e) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

38 Right to terminate call for tenders

- (1) The Minister may, by gazette notice, terminate a call for tenders at any time before deciding to grant an authority to prospect to a person who has made a tender in response to the call.
- (2) All tenders in response to the call lapse when the call is terminated.
- (3) No amount, whether by way of compensation, reimbursement or otherwise is payable by the State to any person for or in connection with the termination.

17 See section 74 (Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers).

18 See division 3, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial work programs).

Subdivision 3 Deciding tenders

39 Process for deciding tenders

Subject to section 43, any process the Minister considers appropriate may be used to decide a call for tenders, including, for example, by a process appointing a preferred tenderer on the tenders made in response to the call.

40 Provisions for preferred tenderers

(1) The Minister may require a preferred tenderer for the call for tenders to—

- (a) pay any amounts necessarily incurred, or to be incurred, to enable the authority to prospect to be granted; and

Example—

amounts required to comply with the Commonwealth Native Title Act, part 2, division 3, subdivision P

- (b) to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—

- (i) pay the annual rent for the first year of the authority;
- (ii) give, under section 488, security for the authority.

(2) If a preferred tenderer does not—

- (a) comply with a requirement under subsection (1); or
- (b) do all things reasonably necessary to allow an authority to prospect to be granted to the tenderer;

the Minister may appoint another tenderer to be the preferred tenderer.

41 Deciding whether to grant authority to prospect

(1) The Minister may, after the closing time for the call for tenders—

- (a) grant an authority to prospect to 1 tenderer; or
- (b) refuse to grant any authority to prospect.

- (2) However—
- (a) before deciding to grant the authority, the Minister must decide whether to approve the applicant's proposed initial work program for the authority;¹⁹ and
 - (b) the Minister can not grant the authority unless—
 - (i) the tenderer is an eligible person; and
 - (ii) the proposed program has been approved; and
 - (iii) a relevant environmental authority for the authority to prospect has been issued.

42 Provisions of authority to prospect

- (1) Each authority to prospect must state its term and area.
- (2) The term—
- (a) must be for at least the required program period for the initial work program for the authority under the call for tenders; but
 - (b) must end no later than 12 years after the authority takes effect.
- (3) The authority may also state—
- (a) conditions or other provisions of the authority, other than conditions or provisions that are—
 - (i) inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for authorities to prospect; or
 - (ii) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the authority;²⁰ and
 - (b) the day it takes effect; and
 - (c) relinquishment days for the authority.²¹

19 See also division 3, subdivision 3 (Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed initial work programs).

20 See also section 99 (Minister's power to decide excluded land).

21 See section 65 (Standard relinquishment condition).

- (4) However, the provisions of the authority may exclude or restrict the carrying out of an authorised activity for the authority.
- (5) The day of effect must not be before the day the authority is granted.
- (6) If no day of effect is stated, the authority takes effect on the day it is granted.
- (7) The first relinquishment day must not be later than 4 years after the day the authority is to take effect.
- (8) The second and any later relinquishment days must not be later than 4 years after the previous relinquishment day.
- (9) If relinquishment days are not stated, its relinquishment days are taken to be—
 - (a) the day that is the fourth anniversary of the authority's day of effect; and
 - (b) each day during its term that is a 4 yearly interval after the day of effect.

43 Criteria for decisions

- (1) The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to grant an authority to prospect or deciding its provisions include—
 - (a) any special criteria; and
 - (b) the extent to which the Minister is of the opinion that the tenderer is capable of carrying out authorised activities for the authority, having regard to the tenderer's—
 - (i) financial and technical resources; and
 - (ii) ability to manage petroleum exploration and production; and
 - (c) the applicant's proposed initial work program.
- (2) The matters mentioned in subsection (1)(b) are the *capability criteria*.
- (3) A person *satisfies* the capability criteria if the Minister forms the opinion mentioned in subsection (1)(b).

44 Notice to unsuccessful tenderers

After a call for tenders has been decided, each tenderer not granted the authority to prospect must be given notice of the decision.²²

Division 3 Work programs**Subdivision 1 Function and purpose of work program****45 Function and purpose**

- (1) The work program for an authority to prospect gives detailed information about the nature and extent of activities to be carried out under the authority.
- (2) The purposes of giving the information are to—
 - (a) allow resource management decisions to be made; and
 - (b) ensure appropriate development of the authority.

Subdivision 2 Requirements for proposed initial work programs**46 Operation of sdiv 2**

This subdivision provides for requirements (the *initial work program requirements*) for a proposed work program for a proposed authority to prospect.

47 Program period

- (1) The proposed program must state its period.

²² See also the *Judicial Review Act 1991*, section 32 (Request for statement of reasons).

- (2) The period must be the same as the required period under the relevant call for tenders.²³

48 General requirements

- (1) The proposed program must provide for each of the following—
- (a) an overview of the activities proposed to be carried out under the authority or proposed authority during all of its term;
 - (b) for each year of the program period—
 - (i) the extent and nature of petroleum exploration and testing for petroleum production proposed to be carried out during the year; and
 - (ii) generally where the activities are proposed to be carried out; and
 - (iii) the estimated cost of the activities;
 - (c) maps that show where the activities are proposed to be carried out;
 - (d) any other information relevant to the matters mentioned in section 49;
 - (e) reasons why the program is considered appropriate;
 - (f) another matter prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) A regulation may impose requirements about the form of the work program.
- (3) In this section—
- year**, of the program period, means—
- (a) the period starting on the day the program period starts and ending on the first anniversary of that day; and
 - (b) each subsequent period of 12 months or less during the program period, starting on each anniversary of that day and ending on—

²³ See section 35 (Call for tenders).

- (i) the next anniversary of that day; or
- (ii) if the program period ends before the next anniversary—the day the program period ends.

Subdivision 3 Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed initial work programs

Note—

For the requirement for approval of an initial work program, see section 41.

49 Criteria

- (1) The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to approve a proposed initial work program include the appropriateness of the tenderer's proposed work program, having regard to each of the following—
 - (a) the potential of the proposed area of the authority to prospect for petroleum discovery;
 - (b) the extent and nature of the proposed petroleum exploration;

Examples—

- proposed geological, geophysical or geochemical surveying
 - the number of petroleum wells the tenderer proposes to drill, and their type
- (c) when and where the tenderer proposes to carry out the exploration.
- (2) The matters mentioned in subsection (1) are the ***work program criteria***.

Subdivision 4 Requirements for proposed later work programs

50 Operation of sdiv 4

This subdivision provides for requirements (the *later work program requirements*) for a proposed later work program for an authority to prospect.

Note—

For the requirements to lodge a proposed later work program, see sections 79 (Obligation to lodge proposed later work program), 100 (Minister may add excluded land), 104 (Requirements for making application) and 790 (Types of noncompliance action that may be taken).

51 General requirements

The proposed program must—

- (a) other than in relation to the program period, comply with the initial work program requirements; and
- (b) state the extent to which the current work program for the authority to prospect has been complied with; and
- (c) if there have been any amendments to the authority or the current work program, state—
 - (i) whether the changes have been incorporated in the proposed program; and
 - (ii) any effect the changes have on the proposed program; and
- (d) state the effect of any petroleum discovery on the proposed program.

52 Program period

- (1) The proposed program must state its period.
- (2) The period must not be longer than—
 - (a) if the term of the rest, or the renewed term, of the authority is less than 4 years—the rest of its term or renewed term; or

- (b) if the term of the rest, or the renewed term, of the authority is 4 years or more, the following—
 - (i) generally—4 years from the start of the period;
 - (ii) if the Minister approves a longer period—the longer period.
- (3) However, the Minister can not approve a period longer than the rest of the term or renewed term of the authority.

53 Implementation of evaluation program for potential commercial area

If, under section 91, an evaluation program is taken to be an additional part of the existing work program for the authority to prospect, the proposed program must include work necessary to implement the evaluation program for the period of that program.

54 Later work programs for proposed new authorities

Proposed later work programs for an application under division 8, subdivision 2, to divide an authority to prospect must have a combined effect that is at least the effect of the work program for the original authority.

Subdivision 5 Approval of proposed later work programs

55 Application of sdiv 5

This subdivision applies if, under this Act, a proposed later work program is lodged for approval.

56 Authority taken to have work program until decision on whether to approve proposed work program

- (1) This section applies until—
 - (a) if the proposed program is approved—the holder is given notice of the approval; or

- (b) if approval of the proposed program is refused—when the refusal takes effect.²⁴
- (2) Despite the ending of the program period for the current work program for the authority to prospect—
 - (a) the authority is taken to have a work program; and
 - (b) the holder may carry out any authorised activity for the authority.

57 Deciding whether to approve proposed program

- (1) The Minister may approve or refuse to approve the proposed program.
- (2) The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to approve the proposed program include each of the following—
 - (a) the work program criteria and capability criteria and any special criteria that applied for deciding the application for the authority to prospect;²⁵
 - (b) the extent to which the current work program has been complied with;
 - (c) any amendments made to the authority or its current work program, and the reasons for the changes;
 - (d) any notice under section 544, commercial viability report or independent viability assessment for the authority.
- (3) Also, if the authority was granted in response to a tender, any other work program proposed by other tenderers for the authority must be taken into account.
- (4) However, subsection (3) applies only to the extent the other program includes the period of the proposed plan.

24 For when the decision takes effect, see section 58 (Steps after, and taking effect of, decision).

25 See sections 35(2)(e)(iii) (Call for tenders) and 43 (Criteria for decisions).

58 Steps after, and taking effect of, decision

- (1) On approval of the proposed later work program, the holder must be given notice of the approval.
- (2) On refusal to approve the later work program, the holder must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.
- (3) An approval takes effect when the holder is given the notice or, if the notice states a later day of effect, on that later day.
- (4) A refusal does not take effect until the end of the appeal period for the refusal.²⁶

Subdivision 6 Amending work programs**59 Restrictions on amending work program**

- (1) An authority to prospect holder may amend the work program for the authority only if—
 - (a) an application for approval of the amendment has been made under this subdivision and the amendment has been approved under this subdivision;²⁷ and
 - (b) if the amendment is to extend the period of the work program—the requirements under subsection (2) have been complied with.
- (2) For subsection (1)(b), the requirements are each of the following—
 - (a) if the work program is the initial work program for the authority—the Minister must be satisfied the work program needs to be amended for a reason beyond the holder's control;
 - (b) the period of the work program, or any earlier work program for the authority, must not have previously been extended;
 - (c) the extension can not be for a term that ends after—

26 See sections 824 (Period to appeal) and 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

27 See also section 91 (Inclusion of evaluation program in work program).

- (i) 1 year after the current period of the work program; or
- (ii) 12 years after the authority originally took effect;
- (d) within 3 months before the making of the application—
 - (i) a person (the *designated person*) became a holder of the authority;
 - (ii) a person (also the *designated person*) applied for approval of a transfer of a share in the authority and the transfer has, under section 573, been approved;
- (e) the share, or proposed share, of the designated person in the authority is at least 50%;
- (f) the designated person is not, under the Corporations Act, section 64B, an entity connected with another person who is a holder of the authority.

60 Applying for approval to amend

- (1) An authority to prospect holder may apply for approval to amend the work program for the authority.
- (2) However, the application can not be made less than 20 business days before the end of the period stated in the work program for carrying out work under the program.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if the Minister is satisfied the work program needs to be amended for a reason beyond the holder's control.

61 Requirements for making application

The application must be—

- (a) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging work program amendment applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or

- (ii) if no office is gazetted—the office of the chief executive; and
- (b) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

62 Deciding application

- (1) If the proposed amendment—
 - (a) does not relate to the initial work program for the authority to prospect; and
 - (b) is to substitute the carrying out of an authorised activity (the *original activity*) with another authorised activity;the Minister may approve the amendment if satisfied the other activity is at least of an equivalent value to the original activity.
- (2) If the application is to extend the period of the work program for the authority, the Minister may approve the amendment only if satisfied —
 - (a) the requirements under section 59(2) have been complied with; and
 - (b) the designated person mentioned in section 59(2) is likely to provide additional financial or technical resources for the authority; and
 - (c) the work program will be completed within the period of the extension.

Note—

For additional provisions about relinquishment that apply if the period is extended, see sections 65(1)(c) and 78A.

- (3) Otherwise, the Minister may approve the amendment only if satisfied it is necessary because of a circumstance—
 - (a) not related to—
 - (i) the applicant's financial or technical resources or ability to manage petroleum exploration; or
 - (ii) the results of exploration; and
 - (b) the happening of which is or was beyond the applicant's control; and

- (c) that could not have been prevented by a reasonable person in the applicant's position.
- (4) Also, if the amendment is approved under subsection (3), any relinquishment day for the authority may be deferred for a period that relates to a circumstance mentioned in subsection (3).
- (5) A deferral under subsection (4)—
 - (a) can not be for longer than 12 years after the authority took effect; and
 - (b) does not defer any later relinquishment day for the authority.
- (6) If, under this section, an amendment is approved, a condition (an ***additional relinquishment condition***) may be imposed on the authority requiring its holder to relinquish, by a notice lodged at the following office, at least a stated percentage of the original notional sub-blocks of the authority on or before a stated day—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging relinquishment notices, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

63 Steps after, and taking effect of, decision

- (1) On approval of the proposed amendment, the holder must be given notice of the approval.
- (2) On refusal to approve the proposed amendment, the holder must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.
- (3) An approval takes effect when the holder is given the notice or, if the notice states a later day of effect, on that later day.

Division 4 Key mandatory conditions for authorities to prospect

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

64 Operation of div 4

This division provides for particular mandatory conditions for authorities to prospect.

Notes—

- 1 The following provisions also impose mandatory conditions on authorities to prospect—
 - division 1
 - parts 4, 9 and 10
 - sections 181 and 202
 - chapter 3, part 4, division 4
 - chapter 3A, part 5
 - chapter 5.
- 2 For what is a mandatory condition, see section 20(2).

Subdivision 2 Standard relinquishment condition and related provisions

65 Standard relinquishment condition

- (1) It is a condition (the *relinquishment condition*) of each authority to prospect that its holder must relinquish part of its area, as provided for under this subdivision—
 - (a) on or before each of its relinquishment days; and
 - (b) if section 68(3) applies—on the day provided for under that subsection; and
 - (c) if, under division 3, subdivision 6, the period of the work program for the authority has been extended—the day on which the extended period ends.

- (2) However, if, under section 62(4), a relinquishment day for the authority (the **original day**) is deferred for a stated period, for the relinquishment condition—
 - (a) the relinquishment that was required on or before the original day is taken to have been deferred until the end of the stated period; but
 - (b) the relinquishments required under the relinquishment condition on any later relinquishment days for the authority must be made as if the deferral has not been granted.
- (3) A relinquishment required under the relinquishment condition—
 - (a) must be made by notice (**relinquishment notice**) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging relinquishment notices, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (b) takes effect on the day after lodgement under paragraph (a).
- (4) This section does not prevent the holder from relinquishing, by relinquishment notice, more than the part provided for under this subdivision.

65A Consequence of failure to comply with relinquishment condition

- (1) If the holder of an authority to prospect does not comply with the relinquishment condition the holder must be given a notice requiring the holder to comply with the condition within 20 business days after the giving of the notice.
- (2) If the holder does not comply with the requirement, the authority to prospect is cancelled.

66 Part usually required to be relinquished

- (1) This section is subject to sections 68 and 69.

- (2) The relinquishment for each relinquishment day, and any other day mentioned in section 65(1)(b) or (c) that applies to the authority, must be such that by that day at least 8.33% of the original notional sub-blocks of the authority to prospect have been relinquished for each year that has passed since the authority originally took effect.
- (3) The sub-blocks required to be relinquished under this section is the *usual relinquishment*.

67 Sub-blocks that can not be counted towards relinquishment

- (1) The following can not be counted as sub-blocks relinquished for the relinquishment condition—
 - (a) sub-blocks relinquished under an additional relinquishment condition;
 - (b) sub-blocks in an area that, under section 101, has ceased to be included in the authority to prospect;
 - (c) the mere declaration of the sub-blocks as a potential commercial area for the authority;
 - (d) sub-blocks the subject of an application for a petroleum lease or potential commercial area;
 - (e) sub-blocks relinquished under a penalty relinquishment.
- (2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that a potential commercial area can be relinquished and can be counted as an area relinquished for the relinquishment condition.
- (3) In this section—

penalty relinquishment means a relinquishment that is—

 - (a) made under section 78A or under a requirement under section 790(1)(b); and
 - (b) more than the sub-blocks required to be relinquished under the relinquishment condition.

68 Adjustments for sub-blocks that can not be counted

- (1) This section applies for a relinquishment day if, after taking away all sub-blocks that, under section 67, can not be counted

for the relinquishment condition, the balance of the sub-blocks of the authority to prospect is less than the sub-blocks required to be relinquished under the usual relinquishment.

- (2) The relinquishment condition is taken to have been complied with if the authority holder gives a relinquishment notice for all of the balance.
- (3) However, if—
 - (a) a sub-block not counted for the relinquishment condition was the subject of an application for a petroleum lease or potential commercial area; and
 - (b) the result of the application is that it is refused;the authority holder must, within 20 business days after the appeal period for the decision to refuse, give a relinquishment notice for that sub-block.

69 Adjustment for particular potential commercial areas

If the only way to comply with the relinquishment condition is to relinquish all or part of a potential commercial area for the authority, the relinquishment condition is taken to be complied with if all remaining sub-blocks of the original notional sub-blocks of the authority are relinquished.

70 Relinquishment must be by blocks

- (1) A relinquishment under the relinquishment condition can only be by blocks.
- (2) However, if a block contains an area that, under section 67, can not be counted as a relinquishment, subsection (1) is complied with if all of the rest of the land within the block is relinquished.

71 Ending of authority to prospect if all of its area relinquished

If all of the area of an authority to prospect is relinquished, the authority ends.

Subdivision 3 Other mandatory conditions

72 Restriction on flaring or venting

- (1) An authority to prospect holder must not flare or vent petroleum in a gaseous state produced under the authority unless the flaring or venting is authorised under this section.
- (2) Flaring the gas is authorised if it is not commercially or technically feasible to use it—
 - (a) commercially under the authority; or
 - (b) for an authorised activity for the authority.
- (3) Venting the gas is authorised if—
 - (a) it is not safe to use the gas for a purpose mentioned in subsection (2)(a) or (b) or to flare it; or
 - (b) flaring it is not technically practicable.

73 Permitted period for production or storage testing

- (1) Subject to section 72, an authority to prospect holder may carry out—
 - (a) testing (*production testing*) for petroleum production from each petroleum well in the area of the authority; and
 - (b) testing each natural underground reservoir in the area for the storage of petroleum or a prescribed storage gas.
- (2) However, it is a condition of the authority to prospect that production testing may be carried out for more than 30 days from when the testing on the petroleum well first starts only with the Minister's approval.
- (3) The approval may be given on the conditions the Minister considers appropriate.
- (4) Despite subsections (1) to (3), an authority to prospect holder can not carry out GHG stream storage.

74 Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers

- (1) An authority to prospect holder must consult or use reasonable endeavours to consult with each owner and occupier of private or public land on which authorised activities for the authority are proposed to be carried out or are being carried out.
- (2) The consultation must be about—
 - (a) access; and
 - (b) the carrying out of authorised activities for the authority to prospect (including, for example, crossing access land for the authority) to the extent they relate to the owners and occupiers; and
 - (c) the authority to prospect holder's compensation liability to the owners or occupiers.

75 Petroleum royalty and annual rent

- (1) An authority to prospect holder must pay the State—
 - (a) petroleum royalty as required under chapter 6; and
 - (b) the annual rent, as prescribed under a regulation.²⁸
- (2) The annual rent must be paid in the way, and on or before the day, prescribed under a regulation.

76 Civil penalty for nonpayment of annual rent

- (1) If an authority to prospect holder does not pay the annual rent as required under section 75, the holder must also pay the State a civil penalty.
- (2) The amount of the penalty is 15% of the rent.
- (3) The penalty—

²⁸ See also section 588 (Interest on amounts owing to the State other than for petroleum royalty).

- (a) must be paid on the day after the last day for payment of the rent; and
- (b) is still payable even if the holder later pays the rent.

77 Requirement to have work program

The holder of an authority to prospect must have a work program for the authority.

Notes—

- 1 The only work program for an authority to prospect is its current initial or later work program, as approved under division 3.
- 2 For the requirements to lodge a proposed later work program see sections 79, 100, 104, 372 and 790.
- 3 For approval of proposed later work programs see division 3, subdivision 5.

78 Compliance with exploration activities in work program

An authority to prospect holder must carry out the exploration activities proposed in the work program.²⁹

78A Penalty relinquishment if work program not completed within extended period

- (1) If—
 - (a) under division 3, subdivision 6, the period of the work program for an authority to prospect has been extended; and
 - (b) the work program is not completed on or before the day on which the extended period ends;

its holder must relinquish a part of the original notional sub-blocks of the authority that the Minister is satisfied corresponds to the amount of the work under the work program that was not completed.

²⁹ For the minimum work commitment, see section 48(1)(b)(i) (General requirements). See also section 56 (Authority taken to have work program until decision on whether to approve proposed work program).

- (2) The holder must give the chief executive written notice of the relinquishment within 20 business days after the end of the extended period.
- (3) If the holder does not comply with subsection (2), the Minister may take action under section 790(1)(b).

79 Obligation to lodge proposed later work program

- (1) This section imposes an obligation on an authority to prospect holder to lodge a proposed later work program for the authority.

Notes—

- 1 For approval of the proposed program, see division 3, subdivision 5.
 - 2 If the holder wishes to renew the authority, a proposed later work program must be included in the renewal application. See section 82(1).
- (2) The obligation is complied with only if the proposed later work program—
 - (a) is lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging proposed later work programs, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (b) complies with the later work program requirements;³⁰ and
 - (c) is accompanied by the relevant fee.
 - (3) A proposed later work program must be lodged at least 40, but no more than 100, business days before the end of the program period for the current work program for the authority (the *current work program period*).
 - (4) However, if before the end of the current work program period, a decision is made not to approve a proposed later work program lodged under subsection (3), the holder may, within the period, lodge another proposed later work program.

³⁰ See division 3, subdivision 4 (Requirements for proposed later work programs).

- (5) If the holder does not lodge any proposed later work program before the end of the current work program period or if subsection (4) applies and the holder does not lodge another proposed later work program within the current work program period—
- (a) the holder must be given a notice requiring the holder to lodge a proposed later work program for the authority within 40 business days after the giving of the notice; and
 - (b) the holder must comply with the requirement.
- (6) In this section—
- relevant fee*, for the lodgement of the proposed program, means—
- (a) if the proposed program is lodged within the time required under subsection (3)—the fee prescribed under a regulation; or
 - (b) if the proposed program is lodged after the time required under subsection (3)—
 - (i) if it is lodged under subsection (4)—nil; or
 - (ii) if it is not lodged under subsection (4)—an amount that is 10 times the prescribed fee.

80 Consequence of failure to comply with notice to lodge proposed later work program

- (1) If an authority to prospect holder does not comply with a requirement under section 79(5)(a), the authority is cancelled.
- (2) However, the cancellation does not take effect until the holder is given a notice stating that the authority has been cancelled because of the operation of subsection (1).

Division 5 Renewals

81 Conditions for renewal application

- (1) An authority to prospect holder may apply to renew the authority only if none of the following is outstanding—

- (a) annual rent for the authority;
 - (b) a civil penalty under section 76 for nonpayment of annual rent;
 - (c) interest payable under section 588 on annual rent or a civil penalty;
 - (d) petroleum royalty for petroleum produced under the authority and any unpaid petroleum royalty interest on it;
 - (e) security required for the authority, as required under section 488.
- (2) Also, the application can not be made—
- (a) more than 60 business days before the end of the term of the authority; or
 - (b) after the authority has ended.

82 Requirements for making application

- (1) The application must—
- (a) be in the approved form; and
 - (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging authority to prospect renewal applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) state whether or not the work program for the authority to prospect has been complied with; and
 - (d) if the work program has not been complied with—state details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance; and
 - (e) include a proposed later work program for the renewed authority; and
 - (f) include a statement about how and when the applicant proposes to consult with, and keep informed, each owner and occupier of private or public land on which

- authorised activities for the renewed authority are, or are likely to be, carried out;³¹ and
- (g) address the capability criteria; and
 - (h) include information about the matters that, under sections 84 and 86, must or may be considered in deciding the application; and
 - (i) state whether or not the applicant has complied with chapter 5, part 7, for reports required to be lodged in relation to the authority; and
 - (j) be accompanied by—
 - (i) the application fee prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (ii) if the application is made less than 20 business days before end of the term of the authority—an amount that is 10 times the application fee.
- (2) The proposed work program must comply with the later work program requirements.

83 Continuing effect of authority for renewal application

- (1) This section applies if before the application is decided the term of the authority to prospect ends.
- (2) Despite the ending of the term, the authority continues in force until the earlier of the following to happen—
 - (a) the start of any renewed term of the authority;
 - (b) a refusal of the application takes effect;³²
 - (c) the application is withdrawn;
 - (d) the authority is cancelled under this Act.³³
- (3) Also, if the applicant has applied for a declaration of a potential commercial area for the authority, the authority

31 See section 74 (Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers).

32 See section 88 (When refusal takes effect).

33 See also section 56 (Authority taken to have work program until decision on whether to approve proposed work program).

continues in force until the declaration application is decided, but only in relation to the area of the proposed potential commercial area applied for.

- (4) If the authority is continued in force under subsection (3), the evaluation program included in the declaration application is taken to be the work program for the authority.
- (5) If the authority is renewed, subsections (2) and (3) are taken never to have applied for the period from the end of the term of the authority being renewed, as stated in that authority.³⁴

84 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may grant or refuse the renewal.
- (2) However—
 - (a) before deciding to grant the renewal, the Minister must decide whether to approve the applicant's proposed later work program for the renewed authority to prospect; and
 - (b) the renewal can not be granted unless—
 - (i) the proposed program has been approved; and
 - (ii) the applicant satisfies the capability criteria; and
 - (iii) the Minister is satisfied the applicant—
 - (A) continues to satisfy any special criteria that applied for deciding the application for the authority to prospect being renewed;³⁵ and
 - (B) has substantially complied with the authority to prospect being renewed; and
 - (iv) a relevant environmental authority for the renewed authority to prospect has been issued.
- (3) Also, if the applicant has been given a notice under section 96 to apply for a petroleum lease, the application must not be decided until the issue of whether a petroleum lease will be granted is decided.

34 See section 85(5) (Provisions and term of renewed authority).

35 See sections 35(2)(e)(iii) (Call for tenders) and 43 (Criteria for decisions).

- (4) Subsection (3) does not limit the power under section 97 to take a proposed action as stated in the notice.
- (5) The Minister may, as a condition of deciding to grant the application, require the applicant to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—
 - (a) pay the annual rent for the first year of the renewed authority;
 - (b) give, under section 488, security for the renewed authority.
- (6) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the application may be refused.

85 Provisions and term of renewed authority

- (1) Subject to this section, section 42 applies to the renewed authority to prospect as if it were an authority to prospect granted under division 2.
- (2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the conditions of the renewed authority may be different from the conditions or other provisions of the authority to prospect being renewed.
- (3) The area of the renewed authority must not be more than the area of the authority to prospect being renewed immediately before the renewed authority is to take effect.
- (4) The first relinquishment day for the renewed authority must not be later than 4 years after the day the renewed authority is to take effect.
- (5) If the renewed authority is decided before the end of the term of the authority to prospect being renewed as stated in that authority (the *previous term*), the term of the renewed authority is taken to start from the end of the previous term.
- (6) If the renewed authority is decided after the previous term, the term of the renewed authority starts immediately after the end of the previous term, but—
 - (a) the conditions of the renewed authority do not start until the authority holder is given notice of them; and

- (b) until the notice is given, the conditions of the authority to prospect being renewed apply to the renewed authority as if they were its conditions.
- (7) The term of the renewed authority must not end more than 12 years from when the authority to prospect originally took effect.
- (8) However, if any part of the area of the renewed authority is a potential commercial area, the term of the renewed authority for that part may be for a longer period that—
 - (a) ends no later than when the declaration ends;³⁶ and
 - (b) is no more than the last term of the authority being renewed.
- (9) To remove any doubt, it is declared that subsection (8)(b) does not prevent a renewal of the renewed authority.

86 Criteria for decisions

The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to grant the renewal or deciding the provisions of the renewed authority include—

- (a) the work program criteria;³⁷ and
- (b) whether the applicant continues to satisfy the capability criteria and any special criteria.

87 Information notice about refusal

On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

88 When refusal takes effect

A refusal of the application does not take effect until end of the appeal period for the decision to refuse.³⁸

36 See section 92 (Term of declaration).

37 See section 49 (Criteria).

38 See sections 824 (Period to appeal) and 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

Division 6 Potential commercial areas

89 Applying for potential commercial area

- (1) The holder of an authority to prospect may apply for a declaration by the Minister that all or a stated part of the area of the authority is a potential commercial area for the authority.
- (2) The application must be—
 - (a) in the approved form; and
 - (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging applications for potential commercial area declarations, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) The application may be made—
 - (a) for more than 1 part of the area of the authority to prospect; and
 - (b) even if another part of the area of the authority is already a potential commercial area.
- (4) The application must include—
 - (a) a report for, or that includes, the proposed potential commercial area that—
 - (i) meets the requirements under section 231 for a commercial viability report; and
 - (ii) is still relevant to the circumstances of the proposed potential commercial area;³⁹ and
 - (b) an evaluation program for—

³⁹ See part 7 (Commercial viability assessment).

- (i) potential petroleum production or storage in the proposed potential commercial area; and
 - (ii) market opportunities for potential production or storage; and
- (c) information about the compliance or noncompliance with the conditions of the authority.
- (5) However, subsection (4)(a) does not apply if—
 - (a) a commercial viability report or an independent viability assessment relates to, or includes the proposed potential commercial area; and
 - (b) the report or assessment is still relevant to the circumstances of the proposed potential commercial area.

90 Deciding potential commercial area application

- (1) The Minister may declare an area the subject of the application to be a potential commercial area only if satisfied—
 - (a) the area is no more than is needed to cover the maximum extent of a natural underground reservoir identified in the report; and
 - (b) petroleum production or storage in the area to be declared, is not, and will not soon be, commercially viable, but is likely to become viable within 15 years.⁴⁰
- (2) Also, the area declared—
 - (a) must not be for more than 75 sub-blocks; and
 - (b) must form a single parcel of land.
- (3) In deciding the application, regard must be had to whether the conditions of the relevant authority to prospect have been substantially complied with.
- (4) On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

⁴⁰ See section 85(6)(b) (Provisions and term of renewed authority).

- (5) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the declaration may be made even if the authority to prospect has been continued in force under section 83 or 119.

91 Inclusion of evaluation program in work program

- (1) If the declaration is made, the evaluation program that accompanied the application is taken to be an additional part of the existing work program for the authority to prospect.⁴¹
- (2) If there is an inconsistency between the evaluation program and the rest of the work program, the evaluation program prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

92 Term of declaration

- (1) Subject to section 93, a declaration of a potential commercial area continues in force for—
- (a) 15 years from the making of the declaration; or
 - (b) if the declaration states a shorter period during which it is to be in force—the shorter period.
- (2) The matters that must be considered in deciding the shorter period include—
- (a) when any petroleum discovery was made, whether or not a notice under section 544(1) was lodged for the discovery; and
 - (b) any commercial viability report or independent viability assessment for, or that includes, the proposed potential commercial area.
- (3) Despite subsection (1), the declaration ceases if the authority to prospect holder lodges a notice that the holder no longer wishes the area to be a potential commercial area at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or

⁴¹ For requirements about the evaluation program in later work programs, see section 53 (Implementation of evaluation program for potential commercial area).

- (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.⁴²

93 Extension of term of declaration

- (1) If—
 - (a) a declaration of a potential commercial area is in force for the area of an authority to prospect; and
 - (b) under the Mineral Resources Act, part 7AA, division 2 or 3, a coal or oil shale mining lease has been granted over the area;

the Minister may, on the application of the authority to prospect holder, extend the term of the declaration for a period that ends no later than 2 years after the mining lease, or any renewal of the mining lease, ends.

- (2) The application must be—
 - (a) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging applications under this section, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (b) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

94 Potential commercial area still part of authority

A declaration of a potential commercial area does not change the land the subject of the declaration from being—

- (a) part of the area of the authority to prospect the subject of the application for the declaration; and
- (b) subject to the authority.

⁴² See also section 102 (Effect of ending of declaration of potential commercial area).

Division 7 Provisions to facilitate transition to petroleum lease

95 Application of div 7

This division applies if the Minister reasonably considers the holder of an authority to prospect should apply for a petroleum lease for all or part of the area of the authority because—

- (a) petroleum production in the area—
 - (i) is currently commercially viable; or
 - (ii) is likely to become commercially viable within 2 years; or
- (b) a natural underground reservoir in the area is, or is likely to have, commercial storage potential.

96 Ministerial direction to apply for petroleum lease

- (1) The Minister may give the authority holder a notice stating each of the following—
 - (a) that the Minister proposes to do either of the following, (the *proposed action*) unless the holder has made an appropriate lease application—
 - (i) excise a stated area from the area of the authority;
 - (ii) cancel the authority;
 - (b) the grounds for the proposed action;
 - (c) the facts and circumstances forming the basis for the grounds;
 - (d) that the holder may, within a stated period, lodge at the following office, submissions about why the holder should not make a petroleum lease application for the stated area—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;

- (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (2) The stated period must be reasonable, but must not be more than 6 months.
- (3) In this section—

appropriate lease application means a petroleum lease application for—

 - (a) the stated area or an area that is substantially the same as the stated area; or
 - (b) another area the Minister reasonably considers will effectively allow the holder to carry out authorised activities for a petroleum lease in relation to the stated area.

97 Taking proposed action

- (1) Proposed action under section 96 may be taken only if—
 - (a) the stated period under section 96 has ended; and
 - (b) either—
 - (i) the holder has not made an appropriate petroleum lease application under section 96; or
 - (ii) any appropriate lease application under section 96 made by the holder has been refused; and
 - (c) the Minister has considered any submissions lodged by the holder within the period.
- (2) The decision does not take effect until the holder is given an information notice about the decision.
- (3) A refusal of the application takes effect at end of the appeal period for the decision to refuse.⁴³

43 See sections 824 (Period to appeal) and 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

Division 8 Miscellaneous provisions

Subdivision 1 Area provisions

98 Area of authority to prospect

- (1) This section provides for the area of an authority to prospect.
- (2) The area does not include excluded land for the authority.
- (3) Unless the Minister otherwise decides, the area must form a single parcel of land.
- (4) The area must not include any of the following (*unavailable land*)—
 - (a) land in the area of another petroleum tenure;
 - (b) excluded land for another petroleum tenure;
 - (c) land in the area of a 1923 Act petroleum tenure;
 - (d) excluded land for a 1923 Act petroleum tenure;
 - (e) land that a regulation prescribes as land over which an authority to prospect can not be granted.
- (5) To remove any doubt, it is declared that if land within the original notional sub-blocks of the authority ceases to be unavailable land, the cessation itself does not cause the land to be within the area of the authority.
- (6) The area may include a part of a block only if the part is all areas within the block that are left after taking away all unavailable land within the block (a *residual block*).
- (7) The area must be no more than 100 blocks or residual blocks, in any combination.

99 Minister's power to decide excluded land

- (1) The Minister may decide excluded land for an authority to prospect or proposed authority to prospect.⁴⁴

44 See sections 42 (Provisions of authority to prospect) and 85 (Provisions and term of renewed authority).

- (2) However, the power under subsection (1) may be exercised only when the Minister is deciding whether to—
 - (a) grant or renew the authority; or
 - (b) approve any later work program for the authority.
- (3) However, excluded land—
 - (a) must be within the original notional sub-blocks of the authority; and
 - (b) can not be a whole block.
- (4) For subsection (3)(a), if the instrument—
 - (a) states that the authority's area includes land within a block; but
 - (b) does not include or exclude any particular sub-block within that block;

the reference to the block is a reference to all sub-blocks within the block, other than any sub-block that is completely within the area of another petroleum tenure or a 1923 Act petroleum tenure.
- (5) Excluded land may be described in a way the Minister considers appropriate, including, for example, by area or by reference to a stated type of land.
- (6) Land ceases to be excluded land for an authority to prospect if—
 - (a) the block in which the land is located is relinquished or, for any other reason, ceases to be in the area of the authority; or
 - (b) a petroleum lease is granted over any of the area of the authority and the land is excluded land for the lease.

100 Minister may add excluded land

- (1) The Minister may amend an authority to prospect by adding excluded land for the authority to its area only if—
 - (a) the authority as amended complies with section 98; and
 - (b) the authority holder consents.

- (2) If land mentioned in subsection (1) is added to the area of the authority the land ceases to be excluded land for the authority.
- (3) The Minister may amend the provisions of the authority in a way that reflects the inclusion of the excluded land.⁴⁵
- (4) Also, the Minister may give the authority holder a notice—
 - (a) withdrawing, from a stated day, the approval of the work program for the authority; and
 - (b) directing the holder to lodge at the relevant office a proposed later work program for the authority that—
 - (i) complies with the later work program requirements; and
 - (ii) changes the work program for the authority to reflect the inclusion of the excluded land.
- (5) The amended provisions of the authority or the proposed later work program must not be—
 - (a) inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for authorities to prospect; or
 - (b) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the authority.
- (6) In this section—

relevant office means—

 - (a) the office of the department for lodging proposed later work programs, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

101 Area of authority to prospect reduced on grant of petroleum lease

- (1) Land ceases to be included in the area of an authority to prospect if a petroleum lease is granted over the land.

⁴⁵ See also section 488 (Power to require security for petroleum authority).

- (2) If a petroleum lease is granted over all of the area of an authority to prospect, the authority ends.⁴⁶

102 Effect of ending of declaration of potential commercial area

- (1) This section applies if all or part of the area of an authority to prospect is a potential commercial area and the declaration of the potential commercial area ends more than 12 years after the authority originally took effect.⁴⁷
- (2) If the declaration applied to a part of the area of the authority, the part ceases to be included in its area.
- (3) If the declaration applies to all of the area of the authority, the authority ends.⁴⁸

Subdivision 2 Dividing authorities to prospect

103 Applying to divide

- (1) The holder of an authority to prospect (the *original authority*) may apply to divide it into 2 or more authorities to prospect (the *new authorities*).
- (2) However, the holder may apply for a new authority to be granted to another person only if the other person—
 - (a) agrees to the proposed grant; and
 - (b) is an eligible person.
- (3) Despite subsections (1) and (2), the holder can not make the application if any of the following is outstanding—
 - (a) annual rent for the original authority;
 - (b) a civil penalty under section 76 for nonpayment of annual rent;

⁴⁶ See however, chapter 3, part 4, division 3 (Exceptions to particular area provisions).

⁴⁷ See section 92 (Term of declaration).

⁴⁸ If the declaration ends less than 12 years after the authority originally took effect, see section 94 (Potential commercial area still part of authority).

- (c) interest payable under section 588 on annual rent or a civil penalty;
- (d) petroleum royalty payable for petroleum produced under the original authority and any unpaid petroleum royalty interest on it;
- (e) security for the original authority, as required under section 488.

104 Requirements for making application

The application must—

- (a) be in the approved form; and
- (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging applications to divide an authority to prospect, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) state whether or not the work program for the original authority to prospect has been complied with; and
- (d) if the work program for the original authority has not been complied with—state details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance; and
- (e) include a proposed later work program for each proposed new authority;⁴⁹ and
- (f) address the capability criteria for each proposed holder of the new authorities; and
- (g) state whether or not the holder has complied with chapter 5, part 7, for reports required to be lodged in relation to the original authority; and
- (h) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

⁴⁹ For an additional requirement for the proposed work programs, see section 54 (Later work programs for proposed new authorities).

105 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may make or refuse to make the division.
- (2) However—
 - (a) before deciding to make the division, the Minister must decide whether to approve the proposed later work programs for the new authorities;⁵⁰ and
 - (b) the division can not be granted unless—
 - (i) the proposed programs have been approved; and
 - (ii) each proposed holder of the new authorities satisfies the capability criteria; and
 - (iii) the Minister is satisfied the applicant continues to satisfy any special criteria that applied for deciding the application for the original authority;⁵¹ and
 - (iv) the Minister is satisfied the applicant has substantially complied with the original authority.
- (3) The matters that must be considered in making the division include the work program for the original authority, the proposed later work programs and the capability criteria.⁵²
- (4) The Minister may, as a condition of making the division, require the applicant to, under section 488, give security or additional security for all or any of the new authorities within a stated reasonable period.
- (5) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the division may be refused.

106 Provisions of new authorities

- (1) Subject to this section, section 42 applies for the provisions of a new authority as if it were an authority to prospect granted under division 2.
- (2) However—

50 See division 3, subdivision 5 (Approval of proposed later work programs).

51 See sections 35(2)(e)(iii) (Call for tenders) and 43 (Criteria for decisions).

52 See section 57 (Deciding whether to approve proposed program).

- (a) the term of each new authority must not end later than the end of the term of the original authority; and
 - (b) the new authorities must have the same relinquishment days as the original authority.
- (3) For the relinquishment condition for the new authorities—
- (a) the new authorities are taken to have originally taken effect when the original authority originally took effect; and
 - (b) the original notional sub-blocks of the original authority are divided rateably between the new authorities; and
 - (c) for working out previous relinquishments that are counted for the relinquishment condition for each new authority, the relinquishments previously counted for the relinquishment condition for the original authority are divided rateably between the new authorities.

107 Steps after deciding application

- (1) After the provisions of the new authorities are decided, the applicant and anyone else who will be a holder of any new authority, must be given notice of the relevant provisions and work program.⁵³
- (2) On refusal to make the division, the applicant must be given notice of the refusal.

⁵³ For noncompliance action started, or that could have been taken, against the original authority holder, see section 792 (Provision for divided petroleum tenures).

Part 2 Petroleum leases

Division 1 Key authorised activities

Subdivision 1 General provisions

108 Operation of sdiv 1

- (1) This subdivision provides for the key authorised activities for a petroleum lease.⁵⁴
- (2) The authorised activities may be carried out despite the rights of an owner or occupier of land on which they are exercised.
- (3) However, the carrying out of the authorised activities is subject to—
 - (a) section 6; and
 - (b) subdivision 2; and
 - (c) chapter 3A, part 5; and
 - (d) chapter 3, part 5, division 1; and
 - (e) chapters 5 and 9; and
 - (f) the mandatory and other conditions of the lease; and
 - (g) any exclusion or restriction provided for in the lease on the carrying out of the activities; and
 - (h) any other relevant Act or law.

109 Exploration, production and storage activities

- (1) The lease holder may carry out the following activities in the area of the lease—
 - (a) exploring for petroleum;
 - (b) subject to section 152—

⁵⁴ For other authorised activities, see part 4 (Water rights for petroleum tenures), chapter 5, part 2, division 3 (Access to private land outside area of petroleum authority) and part 8 (General provisions for conditions and authorised activities).

- (i) testing for petroleum production; and
 - (ii) evaluating the feasibility of petroleum production; and
 - (iii) testing natural underground reservoirs for storage of petroleum or a prescribed storage gas;
 - (c) petroleum production;
 - (d) evaluating, developing and using natural underground reservoirs for petroleum storage or to store prescribed storage gases, including, for example, to store petroleum or prescribed storage gases for others.
- (2) However, the holder must not carry out any of the following—
- (a) extraction or production of a gasification or retorting product from coal or oil shale by a chemical or thermal process;
 - (b) exploration for coal or oil shale to carry out extraction or production mentioned in paragraph (a);
 - (c) GHG stream storage.
- (3) The rights under subsection (1) may be exercised only by or for the holder.⁵⁵
- (4) The right to store petroleum or prescribed storage gases for others is subject to part 6.

110 Petroleum pipeline and water pipeline construction and operation

- (1) The lease holder may construct and operate petroleum pipelines and water pipelines in the area of the lease.
- (2) However, if a petroleum pipeline or water pipeline extends beyond the area of the lease, subsection (1) applies only if the pipeline is completely within—
- (a) the area of the lease; and

⁵⁵ See also section 800 (Restriction on petroleum tenure activities).

For who may exercise the rights for the holder, see section 563 (Who may carry out authorised activity for petroleum authority holder).

- (b) the area of 1 or more other petroleum leases contiguous to the lease that—
 - (i) are also held by the holder of the lease; or
 - (ii) are the subject of a coordination arrangement between the holder of the lease and the holder for each contiguous lease.
- (3) Also, if the pipeline is a water pipeline, the pipeline may only be operated to transport water for the carrying out of an authorised activity for the lease or a lease mentioned in subsection (2)(b)(i), other than the authorised activity under section 186, on an area mentioned in subsection (2).
- (4) Subsection (3) does not prevent the lease holder from constructing or operating a water pipeline if the holder can otherwise lawfully do so.
- (5) In this section—

petroleum pipeline means a pipeline as defined under section 16 other than a pipeline for transporting a GHG stream.

Notes—

- 1 See also the GHG storage Act, section 386 (Restriction on GHG storage activities).
- 2 For the granting of licences under this Act for pipelines for GHG streams see sections 16, 394, 400 and 402.

water pipeline means—

- (a) a pipe, or system of pipes for transporting water; and
- (b) a thing connected to or associated with the pipeline that is necessary for its operation, including, for example, a thing mentioned in the examples to section 16(2)(b).

111 Petroleum processing

- (1) The lease holder may—
 - (a) carry out the processing of petroleum in the area of the lease; and

- (b) construct and operate a facility for the processing, storage or transport of petroleum in the area of the lease.⁵⁶
- (2) Subsection (1) applies for petroleum produced in or outside the area.
- (3) In this section—
 - processing* of petroleum—
 - (a) includes the separation of LPG only if the separation is incidental to other petroleum processing; and
 - (b) does not include refining petroleum.⁵⁷

112 Incidental activities

- (1) The lease holder may carry out an activity (an *incidental activity*) in the area of the lease if carrying out the activity is reasonably necessary for, or incidental to, another authorised activity for the lease.⁵⁸

Examples of incidental activities—

- 1 constructing or operating plant or works, including, for example, communication systems, compressors, powerlines, pumping stations, reservoirs, roads, evaporation or storage ponds and tanks
 - 2 constructing or using temporary structures or structures of an industrial or technical nature, including, for example, mobile and temporary camps
 - 3 removing vegetation for, or for the safety of, exploration or testing under section 152(1)
- (2) However, constructing or using a structure, other than a temporary structure, for office or residential accommodation is not an incidental activity.

56 For ownership of petroleum produced, see chapter 1, part 4 (Property in petroleum).

57 For activities mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b), see chapter 4, part 3 (Petroleum facility licences).

58 See also part 10 (General provisions for petroleum wells, water supply bores and water observation bores), section 239 (Coordination arrangement overrides relevant leases), chapter 5 (Common petroleum authority provisions) and section 20(2) (What are the *conditions* of a petroleum authority).

Note—

For development generally, see the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, chapter 6 (Integrated development assessment system (IDAS)).

Subdivision 2 Provisions for coextensive natural underground reservoirs

113 Application of sdiv 2

This subdivision applies if a natural underground reservoir in the area of a petroleum lease extends to—

- (a) the area of an adjacent petroleum lease or coal or oil shale mining lease (an *adjacent lease*); or
- (b) if a person has applied for a petroleum lease, coal mining lease or oil shale mining lease that will, if granted, be an adjacent lease—the area of the proposed lease.⁵⁹

114 Coordination arrangement may be made about mining or production from reservoir

The petroleum lease holder and an adjacent lease holder, or proposed adjacent lease holder, may make a coordination arrangement that provides for the petroleum that can, under the Mineral Resources Act⁶⁰ or this Act, be produced from the reservoir from within the area of the petroleum lease and the adjacent lease, or proposed adjacent lease.⁶¹

59 See also section 52A (Application of 2004 Act provisions about coextensive natural underground reservoirs) of the 1923 Act.

60 See the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CM (Limited entitlement to mine coal seam gas).

61 For the making of coordination arrangements, see part 8 (Petroleum activities coordination).

115 Restriction on carrying out particular authorised activities

- (1) The petroleum lease holder must not carry out a relevant activity for an adjacent lease or proposed adjacent lease unless—
 - (a) the adjacent lease holder, or the proposed adjacent lease holder, has consented in writing to the carrying out of the activity; or
 - (b) the activity is carried out under—
 - (i) a coordination arrangement mentioned in section 114; or
 - (ii) a decision of the Land Court under section 116.
- (2) However, if the adjacent lease was granted after the petroleum lease was granted and, when the adjacent lease was granted, the petroleum lease holder was carrying out the relevant activity, subsection (1) does not apply to the petroleum lease holder until the later of the following—
 - (a) 6 months after granting of the adjacent lease;
 - (b) if within the 6 months the petroleum lease holder applies to the Land Court under section 116—when the Land Court decides the application.
- (3) In this section—

relevant activity, for an adjacent lease or proposed adjacent lease, means—

 - (a) the production, under the petroleum lease, of petroleum that comes, or is likely to come, from the part of the reservoir that is in the area of an adjacent lease or the proposed adjacent lease; or
 - (b) another authorised activity under the petroleum lease that physically adversely affects, or may physically adversely affect, the carrying out of authorised activities under an adjacent lease or the proposed adjacent lease.

116 Dispute resolution by Land Court

- (1) This section applies if—

- (a) an adjacent lease holder, or the proposed adjacent lease holder, has not consented in writing to the carrying out of a relevant activity under section 115; and
 - (b) the petroleum lease holder and the adjacent lease holder or proposed adjacent lease holder (the *parties*) have not made a coordination arrangement mentioned in section 114.
- (2) Either party may apply to the Land Court for it to decide—
- (a) the amount or proportion of petroleum mentioned in section 114 that, when produced, is owned by each party; and
 - (b) how the parties are to bear the costs of the production; and
 - (c) how the production is to be coordinated or monitored; and
- Example for paragraph (c)—*
- fixing a minimum distance from the boundary between the petroleum lease and the adjacent lease for petroleum production from the reservoir under the petroleum lease
- (d) remediation requirements, as prescribed under a regulation, in relation to the matters mentioned in section 115(3), definition *relevant activity*, paragraph (b).
- (3) If the adjacent lease was granted after the petroleum lease was granted, the decision may apply from the grant of the adjacent lease.
- (4) In making the decision, the Land Court—
- (a) must consider whether the safety of production activities on any adjoining mining or petroleum lease would be compromised; and
 - (b) must attempt to optimise petroleum production under the petroleum lease and mining or production under the adjacent lease in a way that maximises the benefit for all Queenslanders; and
 - (c) may make the decision without having regard to the issue of who would have, under another Act or law, otherwise owned the petroleum.

- (5) In considering the benefit to all Queenslanders, the Land Court must have regard to the public interest.

Division 2 Transition from authority to prospect to petroleum lease

Subdivision 1 Applying for petroleum lease

117 Who may apply

- (1) An authority to prospect holder or a 1923 Act ATP holder may apply for a petroleum lease over all or part of the area of the authority.⁶²
- (2) Also, a person other than the holder may apply for the lease—
 - (a) jointly with the holder; or
 - (b) with the holder's consent.
- (3) An application under this section is an *ATP-related application*.

118 Requirements for making ATP-related application

An ATP-related application must—

- (a) be in the approved form; and
- (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging ATP-related applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) address the capability criteria;⁶³ and

⁶² See also section 168 (Area of petroleum lease).

⁶³ For the criteria, see section 121(1)(e) (Requirements for grant).

- (d) include each of the following—
 - (i) a statement about why the size of the proposed area of the proposed petroleum lease is appropriate for authorised activities under the lease;
 - (ii) a statement about how and when the applicant proposes to consult with, and keep informed, each owner and occupier of private or public land on which authorised activities for the proposed lease are, or are likely to be, carried out;⁶⁴
 - (iii) information about the matter under section 121(2) on which the applicant seeks to rely to establish the requirements for the grant;
 - (iv) a proposed development plan that complies with the initial development plan requirements;⁶⁵ and
- (e) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

119 Continuing effect of authority to prospect for ATP-related application

- (1) This section applies if, other than for subsection (2), the relevant authority to prospect would, other than by cancellation under this Act, end before the ATP-related application is decided.
- (2) The authority continues in force in relation to the area the subject of the application until the earlier of the following to happen—
 - (a) the start of the term of the petroleum lease;
 - (b) a refusal of the ATP-related application takes effect;⁶⁶
 - (c) the application is withdrawn.
- (3) Despite any ending of the program period for the current work program for the authority—

64 See section 153 (Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers).

65 See division 4, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

66 See section 125 (When refusal takes effect).

- (a) the authority is taken to have a work program; and
- (b) the holder may carry out any authorised activity for the authority.

Subdivision 2 Deciding ATP-related applications

120 Right to grant if requirements for grant met

- (1) Subject to sections 122 and 123A, the Minister must grant the petroleum lease if the Minister is satisfied the requirements mentioned in section 121 (the *requirements for grant*) have been complied with.
- (2) The lease must be refused if the Minister is not satisfied any requirement for grant, other than the requirement mentioned section 121(1)(c), has been complied with.
- (3) If the Minister is satisfied the requirements for grant, other than the requirement mentioned section 121(1)(c), have been complied with, the Minister may grant the lease.

121 Requirements for grant

- (1) The requirements for grant are each of the following—
 - (a) the applicant is an eligible person;
 - (b) the proposed area of the proposed petroleum lease—
 - (i) is appropriate for the authorised activities proposed to be carried out; and
 - (ii) if the authorised activities relate to petroleum production—contains the level of knowledge of resources and reserves of petroleum, as prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (iii) if the authorised activities relate to storage of petroleum or a prescribed storage gas—contains an adequately identified natural underground reservoir that is adequate for the proposed purpose of the lease;
 - (c) the conditions of the relevant authority to prospect have been substantially complied with;

- (d) the Minister has approved the applicant's proposed initial development plan for the lease;⁶⁷
 - (e) the Minister is of the opinion that the applicant is capable of carrying out authorised activities for the lease, having regard to the applicant's—
 - (i) financial and technical resources; and
 - (ii) ability to manage petroleum exploration and production;
 - (f) a relevant environmental authority for the lease has been issued;
 - (g) the applicant has established 1 of the matters mentioned in subsection (2);
 - (h) the applicant has paid the annual rent for the first year of the proposed lease;
 - (i) the applicant has given, under section 488, security for the lease.
- (2) For subsection (1)(g), the matters are any of the following—
- (a) commercial petroleum production in the area of the lease is, or is likely, within 2 years after the lease is to take effect;
 - (b) the applicant has—
 - (i) entered into a contract, coordination arrangement or other arrangement (a *relevant arrangement*) to supply petroleum produced from the area of the lease; and
 - (ii) lodged at the office required for lodging ATP-related applications a written declaration that the petroleum produced from the area of the lease will meet all or some of the petroleum required to be supplied under the relevant arrangement;
 - (c) the area of the lease is suitable for underground storage of petroleum or a prescribed storage gas and the storage

⁶⁷ For approval of development plans, see division 4, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

will, or is likely to, start before the later of the following to happen—

- (i) the end of 5 years after the lease is to take effect;
 - (ii) the end of the plan period for the applicant's proposed development plan for the lease.
- (3) The matters mentioned in subsection (1)(e) are the *capability criteria*.
- (4) A person *satisfies* the capability criteria if the Minister forms the opinion about the person mentioned in subsection (1)(e).

122 Exception for particular relevant arrangements

Despite section 120, the application may be refused if the Minister—

- (a) is not satisfied of a matter under section 121(2)(a) or (c); and
- (b) is satisfied the applicant has entered into a relevant arrangement, but the Minister reasonably believes—
 - (i) the arrangement is not an arms-length commercial transaction; or
 - (ii) supply under the arrangement is unlikely to be carried out.

123 Provisions of petroleum lease

- (1) Each petroleum lease must state its term and area.⁶⁸
- (2) The term must—
 - (a) be for at least the plan period for the initial development plan for the lease; and
 - (b) end no later than 30 years after the lease takes effect.
- (3) The lease may also state—
 - (a) conditions or other provisions of the lease, other than conditions or provisions that are—

⁶⁸ See section 168 (Area of petroleum lease).

- (i) inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for petroleum leases; or
 - (ii) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the lease;⁶⁹ and
- (b) a day for the lease to take effect; and
- (c) a day by which petroleum production under the lease is to start (the *production commencement day*).
- (4) However, the provisions of the lease may exclude or restrict the carrying out of an authorised activity for the lease.
- (5) The day of effect must not be before the day the lease is granted.
- (6) If no day of effect is decided, the lease takes effect on the day it is granted.
- (7) The production commencement day may be more than 2 years after the day of effect only if the Minister is satisfied the holder has entered into a relevant arrangement.
- (8) The matters that must be considered in deciding the provisions of the lease include the development plan criteria and capability criteria.
- (9) This section applies subject to section 123A.

123A Provisions about grant and conditions of petroleum lease for significant project

- (1) This section applies if a petroleum lease or proposed petroleum lease is for a significant project.
- (2) The Minister must not grant the lease until the Minister has been given the Coordinator-General's report for the project.
- (3) Any Coordinator-General's conditions for the lease must be stated in the lease.
- (4) Any other condition of the lease stated under section 123 must not be inconsistent with the Coordinator-General's conditions.

⁶⁹ See also section 169 (Minister's power to decide excluded land).

- (5) If a mandatory condition for petroleum leases conflicts with any of the Coordinator-General's conditions, the Coordinator-General's condition prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

124 Information notice about refusal

On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.⁷⁰

125 When refusal takes effect

A refusal of the application does not take effect until the end of the appeal period for the decision to refuse.⁷¹

Division 3 Obtaining petroleum lease by competitive tender

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

126 Operation of div 3

- (1) This division provides for a process for the granting of petroleum leases by competitive tender.
- (2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that a petroleum lease can only be granted under this division, division 2 or division 7, subdivision 2.

70 See however section 829 (Restriction on Land Court's powers for decision not to grant petroleum lease).

71 See sections 824 (Period to appeal) and 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

Subdivision 2 **Calls for tenders**

127 **Call for tenders**

- (1) The Minister may publish a notice (a *call for tenders*) inviting tenders for a petroleum lease.
- (2) The call must state—
 - (a) the proposed area of the lease; and
 - (b) that, under section 169, particular land may be excluded land for the lease; and
 - (c) the day and time by which tenders in response to it must be made (the *closing time* for the call); and
 - (d) that the tenders must be lodged before the closing time for the call at the place stated in the approved form for making the tender; and
 - (e) that details about each of the following are available at a stated place—
 - (i) any proposed conditions of the lease, other than mandatory conditions for petroleum leases, that are likely to impact significantly on exploration or production in the proposed area of the lease;
 - (ii) the required plan period for the initial development plan for the lease;
 - (iii) any criteria (*special criteria*), other than the development plan criteria and capability criteria, proposed to be used to decide whether to grant the lease or to decide its provisions;⁷²
 - (iv) the weight proposed to be given to each development plan criteria, capability criteria and special criteria.
- (3) The call may state other relevant matters, including, for example, matters relevant to the development plan, capability or special criteria.

⁷² For the capability criteria and development plan criteria, see sections 121 (Requirements for grant) and 141 (Criteria).

- (4) The area of the proposed lease must comply with section 168.
- (5) Subsection (2)(e)(i) does not limit the power under section 133 to decide conditions of the lease if it is granted.

128 Right to tender

- (1) A person⁷³ may tender for a proposed petroleum lease the subject of a call for tenders.
- (2) However, the tender—
 - (a) must comply with the requirements under section 118 for making an ATP-related application; and
 - (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office or place for lodging tenders for proposed petroleum leases, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office or place is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office or place stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) can not be made—
 - (i) after the closing time for the call; or
 - (ii) for only part of the area of the proposed petroleum lease.

129 Right to terminate call for tenders

- (1) The Minister may, by gazette notice, terminate a call for tenders at any time before deciding to grant a petroleum lease to a person who has made a tender in response to the call.
- (2) All tenders in response to the call lapse when the call is terminated.
- (3) No amount, whether by way of compensation, reimbursement or otherwise is payable by the State to any person for or in connection with the termination.

⁷³ See however section 132(2) (Deciding whether to grant petroleum lease).

Subdivision 3 Deciding tenders

130 Process for deciding tenders

Subject to section 134, any process the Minister considers appropriate may be used to decide a call for tenders, including, for example, by a process appointing a preferred tenderer on the tenders made in response to the call.

131 Provisions for preferred tenderers

- (1) The Minister may require a preferred tenderer for the call for tenders to—
 - (a) pay any amounts necessarily incurred, or to be incurred, to enable the petroleum lease to be granted; and
Example—

amounts required to comply with the Commonwealth Native Title Act, part 2, division 3, subdivision P
 - (b) to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—
 - (i) pay the annual rent for the first year of the lease;
 - (ii) give security for the lease, as required under section 488.
- (2) If a preferred tenderer does not—
 - (a) comply with a requirement under subsection (1); or
 - (b) do all things reasonably necessary to allow a petroleum lease to be granted to the tenderer;

the Minister may appoint another tenderer to be the preferred tenderer.

132 Deciding whether to grant petroleum lease

- (1) The Minister may, after the closing time for the call for tenders—
 - (a) grant a petroleum lease to 1 tenderer; or
 - (b) refuse to grant any petroleum lease.

- (2) However—
- (a) before deciding to grant the lease, the Minister must decide whether to approve the applicant's proposed initial development plan for the lease;⁷⁴ and
 - (b) the Minister can not grant the lease unless—
 - (i) the tenderer is an eligible person; and
 - (ii) the proposed plan has been approved; and
 - (iii) the Minister is satisfied the requirements for grant, other than the requirement mentioned in section 121(1)(c), have been complied with; and
 - (iv) a relevant environmental authority for the lease has been issued.
- (3) This section applies subject to section 123A.

133 Provisions of petroleum lease

Sections 123 and 123A apply to a petroleum lease granted under this division as if the tender for the lease was an ATP-related application.

134 Criteria for decisions

- (1) The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to grant a petroleum lease or its provisions include the development plan criteria, capability criteria and any special criteria.
- (2) The Minister may give the weight to each of the development plan, capability and special criteria that the Minister considers appropriate in the circumstances.

⁷⁴ See division 4, subdivision 3 (Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed initial development plans).

135 Notice to unsuccessful tenderers

After a call for tenders has been decided, each tenderer not granted the petroleum lease must be given notice of the decision.⁷⁵

Division 4 Development plans**Subdivision 1 Function and purpose of development plan****136 Function and purpose**

- (1) The development plan for a petroleum lease or proposed petroleum lease (the *relevant lease*) gives detailed information about the nature and extent of activities to be carried out under the relevant lease.
- (2) The development plan may—
 - (a) also relate to another petroleum lease or proposed petroleum lease if the other lease or proposed lease relates to the relevant lease; and
 - (b) provide that when the plan is approved it will replace any development plan for the other lease.
- (3) The purposes of giving the information are to—
 - (a) allow resource management decisions to be made; and
 - (b) ensure appropriate development of the lease.

Subdivision 2 Requirements for proposed initial development plans**137 Operation of sdiv 2**

This subdivision provides for requirements (the *initial*

⁷⁵ See also the *Judicial Review Act 1991*, section 32 (Request for statement of reasons).

development plan requirements) for a proposed initial development plan for a proposed petroleum lease.⁷⁶

138 General requirements

- (1) The proposed plan must provide for each of the following—
 - (a) an overview of the activities proposed to be carried out under the lease or proposed lease during all of its term;
 - (b) for each year of the plan period—
 - (i) the nature and extent of activities proposed to be carried out under the lease or proposed lease during the year; and
 - (ii) where the activities are proposed to be carried out; and
 - (iii) the estimated cost of the activities;
 - (c) for each natural underground reservoir in the area of the lease of which the applicant is aware, each of the following—
 - (i) the location and a verifiable estimate of the amount of petroleum in the reservoir;
 - (ii) the standards and procedures used to make the estimate;
 - (iii) the rate and amount of production proposed from the reservoir;
 - (iv) approximately when the proposed production is to start;
 - (v) a schedule for the proposed production during the plan period;
 - (d) maps that show the matters mentioned in paragraphs (b)(i) and (ii) and (c)(i);
 - (e) any other information relevant to the development plan criteria;

⁷⁶ For additional requirements for development plans for coal seam gas, see chapter 3, part 6 (Additional provisions for development plans).

- (f) reasons why the plan is considered appropriate;
 - (g) another matter prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) A regulation may impose requirements about the form of the development plan.
- (3) In this section—
- year*, of the plan period, means—
- (a) the period starting on the day the plan period starts and ending on the first anniversary of that day; and
 - (b) each subsequent period of 12 months or less during the plan period, starting on each anniversary of that day and ending on—
 - (i) the next anniversary of that day; or
 - (ii) if the plan period ends before the next anniversary—the day the plan period ends.

139 Plan period

- (1) The proposed plan must state its period.
- (2) If the proposed plan relates to a tender, the period must be the same as the required period under the relevant call for tenders.⁷⁷
- (3) If the proposed plan relates to an ATP-related application, the period must not be longer than—
 - (a) if the term sought for the lease is less than 5 years from the granting of the lease—the term of the lease; or
 - (b) if the term sought for the lease is 5 years or more from the start of the term—5 years from the start of the term.

140 Storage

If natural underground reservoir storage is proposed, the proposed plan must include the following—

⁷⁷ See section 127 (Call for tenders).

- (a) a program for evaluating, developing and using the reservoir;
- (b) a verifiable estimate of its storage capacity;
- (c) the standards and procedures used to make the estimate;
- (d) a schedule for the storage injection and withdrawal;
- (e) another matter prescribed under a regulation.

Subdivision 3 Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed initial development plans

Note—

For the requirement for approval of an initial development plan, see sections 120 and 132.

141 Criteria

The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to approve a proposed development plan include each of the following (the *development plan criteria*)—

- (a) the potential of the area of the proposed petroleum lease for petroleum production and related activities;
- (b) the nature and extent of the activities;
- (c) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out;
- (d) whether petroleum production sought under the lease will be optimised in the best interests of the State, having regard to the public interest.

Subdivision 4 Requirements for proposed later development plans

142 Operation of sdiv 4

This subdivision provides for requirements (the *later*

development plan requirements) for a proposed later development plan for a petroleum lease.

Note—

For the requirements to lodge a proposed later development plan, see sections 159 (Obligation to lodge proposed later development plan), 170 (Minister may add excluded land), 372 (Requirements for making application) and 790 (Types of noncompliance action that may be taken).

143 General requirements

- (1) The proposed plan must—
 - (a) comply with the initial development plan requirements, as if the reference in section 139(3) to the term sought for the lease were a reference to the remaining term, or the renewed term, of the lease; and
 - (b) highlight any significant changes from the current development plan for the lease; and
 - (c) if the current development plan has not been complied with—state the details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance.
- (2) If the effect of the proposed plan is to significantly change an activity provided for under the current development plan for the lease, the proposed plan must also state reasons for the change.
- (3) Also, for a significant change that is a cessation or reduction of petroleum production, the proposed plan must include an evaluation of—
 - (a) petroleum production potential in the area of the lease; and
 - (b) market opportunities for petroleum production in the area of the lease.

144 Later development plans for proposed new leases

Proposed later development plans for an application under division 7, subdivision 2, to divide a petroleum lease must have a combined effect that is at least the effect of the development plan for the original lease.

Subdivision 5 Approval of proposed later development plans

145 Application of sdiv 5

This subdivision applies if—

- (a) under this Act, a proposed later development plan is lodged for approval;⁷⁸ or
- (b) the Minister is considering an application under section 235 for approval of a proposed coordination arrangement.

146 Petroleum lease taken to have development plan until decision on whether to approve proposed development plan

- (1) This section applies until—
 - (a) if the proposed plan is approved—the holder is given notice of the approval; or
 - (b) if approval of the proposed plan is refused—when the refusal takes effect.⁷⁹
- (2) Despite the ending of the plan period for the current development plan for the petroleum lease—
 - (a) the lease is taken to have a development plan; and
 - (b) the holder may carry out any authorised activity for the lease.

78 For requirements to lodge a proposed later development plan, see sections 100 (Minister may add excluded land), 159 (Obligation to lodge proposed later development plan), 170 (Minister may add excluded land), 372 (Requirements for making application) and 790 (Types of noncompliance action that may be taken), division 6 (Renewals) and division 7, subdivision 2 (Dividing petroleum leases).

79 For when the decision takes effect, see section 149 (Steps after, and taking effect of, decision).

147 Deciding whether to approve proposed plan

- (1) The Minister may approve or refuse to approve the proposed plan.
- (2) The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to approve the proposed plan include each of the following—
 - (a) the development plan criteria;
 - (b) the extent to which the current development plan for the lease has been complied with;
 - (c) if the proposed plan provides for a significant change that is a cessation or reduction of petroleum production—
 - (i) whether the cessation or reduction is reasonable; and
 - (ii) whether the petroleum lease holder has taken all reasonable steps to prevent the cessation or reduction.
- (3) Also, if the lease was granted in response to a tender, any other development plan proposed by other tenderers for the lease must be taken into account.
- (4) However, subsection (3) applies only to the extent the other plan includes the period of the proposed plan.

148 Power to require relinquishment

- (1) This section applies if the proposed plan provides for a significant change that is a cessation or reduction of petroleum production.
- (2) The Minister may approve the proposed plan, but—
 - (a) decide (a *deferral decision*)—
 - (i) to defer the taking of effect of the approval until the petroleum lease holder relinquishes, by a notice lodged at the following office (the *relevant office*), a stated part or percentage of the area of the lease on or before a stated day—

- (A) the office of the department for lodging relinquishment notices, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (B) if no office is gazetted under subsubparagraph (A)—the office of the chief executive; and
- (ii) that the decision to approve the proposed plan is replaced by a decision not to approve it if the notice is not lodged on or before the stated day; or
- (b) impose a condition on the lease requiring its holder to relinquish, by a notice lodged at the relevant office, a stated part or percentage of the area of the lease at stated times or intervals.
- (3) The public interest must be considered before making a deferral decision or imposing the condition.
 - (4) A relinquishment under subsection (2)(a)(i) takes effect on the day after the notice is lodged.

149 Steps after, and taking effect of, decision

- (1) On approval of the proposed later development plan, the holder must be given notice of the approval.
- (2) The approval takes effect when the holder is given the notice or, if the notice states a later day of effect, on that later day.
- (3) The holder must be given an information notice about—
 - (a) a decision to refuse to approve the proposed plan; or
 - (b) a decision, under section 148, to make a deferral decision or impose a condition.
- (4) A refusal does not takes effect until the end the appeal period for the decision to refuse.

Division 5 Key mandatory conditions for petroleum leases

150 Operation of div 5

This division provides for particular mandatory conditions for petroleum leases.

Notes—

- 1 The following provisions also impose mandatory conditions on petroleum leases—
 - division 1
 - parts 4, 9 and 10
 - sections 181 and 202
 - part 6, division 2, subdivision 2
 - chapter 3, part 5, division 2
 - chapter 3A, part 5
 - chapter 5.
- 2 For what is a mandatory condition, see section 20(2).

151 Restriction on flaring or venting

- (1) A petroleum lease holder must not flare or vent petroleum in a gaseous state produced under the lease unless the flaring or venting is authorised under this section.
- (2) Flaring the gas is authorised if it is not commercially or technically feasible to use it—
 - (a) commercially under the lease; or
 - (b) for an authorised activity for the lease.
- (3) Venting the gas is authorised if—
 - (a) it is not safe to use the gas for a purpose mentioned in subsection (2)(a) or (b) or to flare it; or
 - (b) flaring it is not technically practicable.
- (4) Venting the gas is also authorised if—
 - (a) it is being used, or is proposed to be used, under a greenhouse abatement scheme; and

- (b) if subsection (1) were to apply, the direct or indirect benefit the lease holder would otherwise obtain because of the use of the gas under the scheme would be reduced.
- (5) In this section—
 - greenhouse abatement scheme* means—
 - (a) the *Electricity Supply Act 1995* (NSW), part 8A;⁸⁰ or
 - (b) the Commonwealth's Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program; or
 - (c) another scheme about the abatement of greenhouse gases prescribed under a regulation.

152 Permitted period for production or storage testing

- (1) Subject to section 151, a petroleum lease holder may carry out—
 - (a) testing (*production testing*) for petroleum production from each petroleum well in the area of the lease; and
 - (b) testing each natural underground reservoir in the area for the storage of petroleum or a prescribed storage gas.
- (2) However, production testing may be carried out for more than 30 days from when the testing on the petroleum well first starts only with the Minister's approval.
- (3) The approval may be given on the conditions the Minister considers appropriate.
- (4) Despite subsections (1) to (3), a petroleum lease holder can not carry out GHG stream storage.

153 Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers

- (1) A petroleum lease holder must consult or use reasonable endeavours to consult with each owner and occupier of private

⁸⁰ See, in particular, the *Greenhouse Gas Benchmark Rule (Generation) No. 2 of 2003*, paragraph 10.1 (Total greenhouse gas emissions), made under the *Electricity Supply Act 1995* (NSW), part 8A, section 97K (Greenhouse gas benchmark rules).

or public land on which authorised activities for the lease are proposed to be carried out or are being carried out.

- (2) The consultation must be about—
 - (a) access; and
 - (b) the carrying out of authorised activities for the petroleum lease (including, for example, crossing access land for the lease) to the extent they relate to the owners and occupiers; and
 - (c) the petroleum lease holder's compensation liability to the owners or occupiers.

154 Obligation to commence production

- (1) A petroleum lease holder must start petroleum production under the lease on or before the later of the following—
 - (a) the end of 2 years after the lease takes effect;
 - (b) any production commencement day for the lease.
- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply if the development plan for the lease only provides for natural underground reservoir storage.

155 Petroleum royalty and annual rent

- (1) A petroleum lease holder must pay the State—
 - (a) petroleum royalty as required under chapter 6; and
 - (b) the annual rent, as prescribed under a regulation.⁸¹
- (2) The annual rent must be paid in the way, and on or before the day, prescribed under a regulation.

156 Civil penalty for nonpayment of annual rent

- (1) If a petroleum lease holder does not pay the annual rent as required under section 155, the holder must also pay the State a civil penalty.

81 See also section 588 (Interest on amounts owing to the State other than for petroleum royalty).

- (2) The amount of the penalty is 15% of the rent.
- (3) The penalty—
 - (a) must be paid on the day after the last day for payment of the rent; and
 - (b) is still payable even if the holder later pays the rent.

157 Requirement to have development plan

The holder of a petroleum lease must have a development plan for the lease.

Notes—

- 1 The only development plan for a petroleum lease is its current initial or later development plan as approved under division 4.
- 2 For the requirements to lodge a proposed later development plan see sections 159, 170, 372 and 790.
- 3 For approval of proposed later development plans see division 4, subdivision 5.

158 Compliance with development plan

- (1) A petroleum lease holder must comply with the development plan for the lease.⁸²
- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply to a failure to comply with the plan that is an act or omission by the holder to ensure compliance with an insufficiency of supply direction under the *Gas Supply Act 2003*.

159 Obligation to lodge proposed later development plan

- (1) This section imposes an obligation on a petroleum lease holder to lodge a proposed later development plan for the lease.

Notes—

- 1 For approval of the proposed plan, see division 4, subdivision 5.

82 See also section 146 (Petroleum lease taken to have development plan until decision on whether to approve proposed development plan).

- 2 If the holder wishes to renew the lease, a proposed later development plan must be included in the renewal application. See section 162(1).
- (2) The obligation is complied with only if the proposed later development plan—
- (a) is lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging proposed later development plans, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (b) complies with the later development plan requirements;⁸³ and
 - (c) is accompanied by the relevant fee.
- (3) A proposed later development plan must be lodged—
- (a) at least 40, but no more than 100, business days before the end of the plan period for its current development plan (the *current plan period*); or
 - (b) as soon as practicable after the holder proposes or becomes aware of a significant change to the nature and extent of an authorised activity that is not already dealt with under the current development plan for the lease.
- (4) However, if before the end of the current plan period, a decision is made not to approve a proposed later development plan lodged under subsection (3), the holder may, within the period, lodge another proposed later development plan.
- (5) If the holder does not lodge any proposed later development plan before the end of the current plan period or if subsection (4) applies and the holder does not lodge another proposed later development plan within the current plan period—
- (a) the holder must be given a notice requiring the holder to lodge a proposed later development plan for the lease within 40 business days after the giving of the notice; and

83 See division 4, subdivision 4 (Requirements for proposed later development plans).

- (b) the holder must comply with the requirement.
- (6) In this section—
 - relevant fee*, for the lodgement of the proposed plan, means—
 - (a) if the proposed plan is lodged within the time required under subsection (3)—the fee prescribed under a regulation; or
 - (b) if the proposed plan is lodged after the time required under subsection (3) and—
 - (i) if it is lodged under subsection (4)—nil; or
 - (ii) if it is not lodged under subsection (4)—an amount that is 10 times the prescribed fee.

160 Consequence of failure to comply with notice to lodge proposed later development plan

- (1) If a petroleum lease holder does not comply with a requirement under section 159(5)(a), the lease is cancelled.
- (2) However, the cancellation does not take effect until the holder is given a notice stating that the lease has been cancelled because of the operation of subsection (1).

Division 6 Renewals

161 Conditions for renewal application

- (1) A petroleum lease holder may apply to renew the lease only if none of the following is outstanding—
 - (a) annual rent for the lease;
 - (b) a civil penalty under section 156 for nonpayment of annual rent;
 - (c) interest payable under section 588 on annual rent or a civil penalty;
 - (d) petroleum royalty for petroleum produced under the lease and any unpaid petroleum royalty interest on it;
 - (e) security for the lease, as required under section 488.

- (2) Also, the application can not be made—
 - (a) more than 80 business days before the end of the term of the lease; or
 - (b) after the lease has ended.
- (3) However, the Minister may allow the application to be made up to 2 years before the end of the term of the lease if the Minister is of the opinion that—
 - (a) a storage agreement is in force for the lease or the holder has negotiated, or is negotiating, a proposed storage agreement for the lease; and
 - (b) the agreement or proposed agreement will be in force after the proposed renewed lease takes effect.

162 Requirements for making renewal application

- (1) The application must—
 - (a) be in the approved form; and
 - (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging petroleum lease renewal applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) state whether or not the development plan for the petroleum lease has been complied with; and
 - (d) if the development plan has not been complied with—state details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance; and
 - (e) include a proposed later development plan for the renewed lease; and
 - (f) include a statement about how and when the applicant proposes to consult with, and keep informed, each owner and occupier of private or public land on which

- authorised activities for the renewed lease are, or are likely to be, carried out;⁸⁴ and
- (g) state whether or not the applicant has complied with chapter 5, part 7, for reports required to be lodged in relation to the lease; and
 - (h) be accompanied by—
 - (i) the application fee prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (ii) if the application is made less than 40 business days before the end of the term of the lease—an amount that is 10 times the application fee.
- (2) The proposed later development plan must comply with the later development plan requirements.

163 Continuing effect of lease for renewal application

- (1) This section applies if the term of the petroleum lease ends before the application is decided.
- (2) Despite the ending of the term, the lease continues in force until the earlier of the following to happen—
 - (a) the start of any renewed term of the lease;
 - (b) a refusal of the application takes effect;⁸⁵
 - (c) the application is withdrawn;
 - (d) the lease is cancelled under this Act.⁸⁶
- (3) If the lease is renewed, subsection (2) is taken never to have applied for the period from the end of the term of the lease being renewed, as stated in that lease.⁸⁷

84 See section 153 (Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers).

85 See section 167 (When refusal takes effect).

86 See also section 146 (Petroleum lease taken to have development plan until decision on whether to approve proposed development plan).

87 See section 165(4) (Provisions and term of renewed lease).

164 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may grant or refuse the renewal.
- (2) However—
 - (a) before deciding to grant the renewal, the Minister must decide whether to approve the applicant's proposed later development plan for the renewed petroleum lease; and
 - (b) the renewal can not be granted unless—
 - (i) the proposed plan has been approved; and
 - (ii) the Minister considers the applicant satisfies the capability criteria and has substantially complied with the lease being renewed; and
 - (iii) a relevant environmental authority for the renewed lease has been issued.
- (3) Also, the Minister may, as a condition of deciding to grant the application, require the applicant to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—
 - (a) pay the annual rent for the first year of the renewed lease;
 - (b) give, under section 488, security for the renewed lease.
- (4) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the application may be refused.

165 Provisions and term of renewed lease

- (1) Subject to this section, section 123 applies to the renewed petroleum lease as if it were a petroleum lease granted under division 2.
- (2) The conditions or other provisions of the renewed lease may be different from the conditions or other provisions of the petroleum lease being renewed.
- (3) The area of the renewed lease must not be more than the area of the petroleum lease being renewed immediately before the renewed lease is to take effect.
- (4) If the renewal is decided before the end of the term of the petroleum lease being renewed as stated in that lease (the

previous term), the term of the renewed lease is taken to start from the end of the previous term.

- (5) If the renewed lease is decided after the previous term, the term of the renewed lease starts immediately after the end of the previous term, but—
 - (a) the conditions of the renewed lease do not start until the lease holder is given notice of them; and
 - (b) until the notice is given, the conditions of the petroleum lease being renewed apply to the renewed lease as if they were its conditions.
- (6) The term of the renewed lease must not be more than—
 - (a) if it has not been previously renewed—the original term of the lease; or
 - (b) if it has been previously renewed—its last renewed term.

166 Information notice about refusal

On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

167 When refusal takes effect

A refusal of the application does not take effect until the end of the appeal period for the decision to refuse.⁸⁸

Division 7 Miscellaneous provisions

Subdivision 1 Area of petroleum lease

168 Area of petroleum lease

- (1) This section provides for the area of a petroleum lease.
- (2) The area does not include excluded land for the lease.

⁸⁸ See sections 824 (Period to appeal) and 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

- (3) Unless the Minister otherwise decides, the area must form a single parcel of land.
- (4) The area must not include any of the following (*unavailable land*)—
 - (a) land in the area of another petroleum tenure, other than land that will, under section 101, cease to be included in the area of an authority to prospect on the grant of the lease;
 - (b) excluded land for another petroleum tenure;
 - (c) land in the area of a 1923 Act petroleum tenure;
 - (d) excluded land for a 1923 Act petroleum tenure;
 - (e) land that a regulation prescribes as land over which a petroleum lease can not be granted.
- (5) To remove any doubt, it is declared that if land within any sub-block that the lease states is included in the area of the lease ceases to be unavailable land, the cessation itself does not cause the land to be within the area of the lease.
- (6) For subsection (5), if the lease states that its area includes land within a block without including or excluding any particular sub-block, the reference to the block is a reference to all sub-blocks within the block.
- (7) The area may include a part of a sub-block only if the part is all areas within the sub-block that are left after taking away all unavailable land within the sub-block (a *residual sub-block*).
- (8) The area must be no more than 75 sub-blocks or residual sub-blocks, in any combination.

169 Minister's power to decide excluded land

- (1) The Minister may decide excluded land for a petroleum lease or proposed petroleum lease.⁸⁹
- (2) However, the power under subsection (1) may be exercised only when the Minister is deciding whether to—

⁸⁹ See sections 123 (Provisions of petroleum lease), 133 (Provisions of petroleum lease) and 165 (Provisions and term of renewed lease).

- (a) grant or renew the lease; or
 - (b) approve any later development plan for the lease.
- (3) However, excluded land—
- (a) must be within any sub-block that the lease states is included in the area of the lease; and
 - (b) can not be a whole sub-block.
- (4) For subsection (3)(a), if the instrument—
- (a) states that the lease's area includes land within a block; but
 - (b) does not include or exclude any particular sub-block within that block;
- the reference to the block is a reference to all sub-blocks within the block, other than any sub-block that is completely within the area of another petroleum tenure or a 1923 Act petroleum tenure.
- (5) Excluded land may be described in a way the Minister considers appropriate, including, for example, by area or by reference to a stated type of land.
- (6) Land ceases to be excluded land for a petroleum lease if, for any reason, the sub-block in which the land is located ceases to be in the area of the lease.

170 Minister may add excluded land

- (1) The Minister may amend a petroleum lease by adding excluded land for the lease to its area only if—
- (a) the lease as amended complies with section 168; and
 - (b) the lease holder consents.
- (2) If land mentioned in subsection (1) is added to the area of the lease, the land ceases to be excluded land for the lease.
- (3) The Minister may amend the provisions of the lease in a way that reflects the inclusion of the excluded land.⁹⁰

⁹⁰ See also section 488 (Power to require security for petroleum authority).

- (4) Also, the Minister may give the lease holder a notice—
- (a) withdrawing, from a stated day, the approval of the development plan for the lease; and
 - (b) directing the holder to lodge at the relevant office a proposed later development plan for the lease that—
 - (i) complies with the later development plan requirements; and
 - (ii) changes the development plan for the lease to reflect the inclusion of the excluded land.
- (5) The amended provisions of the lease or the proposed later development plan must not be—
- (a) inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for petroleum leases; or
 - (b) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the lease.
- (6) In this section—
- relevant office* means—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging proposed later development plans, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Subdivision 2 Dividing petroleum leases

171 Applying to divide

- (1) The holder of a petroleum lease (the *original lease*) may apply to divide it into 2 or more petroleum leases (the *new leases*).
- (2) However, the holder may apply for a new lease to be granted to another person only if the other person—
- (a) agrees to the proposed grant; and
 - (b) is an eligible person.

- (3) Despite subsections (1) and (2), the holder can not make the application if any of the following is outstanding—
- (a) annual rent for the original lease;
 - (b) a civil penalty under section 156 for nonpayment of annual rent;
 - (c) interest payable under section 588 on annual rent or a civil penalty;
 - (d) petroleum royalty payable for petroleum produced under the original lease and any unpaid petroleum royalty interest on it;
 - (e) security for the original lease, as required under section 488.

172 Requirements for making application

The application must—

- (a) be in the approved form; and
- (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging applications to divide a petroleum lease, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) state whether or not the development plan for the original lease has been complied with; and
- (d) if the development plan for the original lease has not been complied with—state details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance; and
- (e) include a proposed later development plan for each proposed new lease;⁹¹ and

91 For an additional requirement for the proposed development plans, see section 144 (Later development plans for proposed new leases).

- (f) address the capability criteria for each proposed holder of the new leases; and
- (g) state whether or not the holder has complied with chapter 5, part 7, for reports required to be lodged in relation to the original lease; and
- (h) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

173 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may make or refuse to make the division.
- (2) However—
 - (a) before deciding to make the division, the Minister must decide whether to approve the proposed later development plans for the new leases;⁹² and
 - (b) the division can not be made unless—
 - (i) the proposed plans have been approved; and
 - (ii) the applicant has established 1 of the matters mentioned in section 121(2) for each proposed lease; and
 - (iii) each proposed holder of the new leases satisfies the capability criteria; and
 - (iv) the Minister is satisfied the applicant continues to satisfy any special criteria that applied for deciding the application for the original lease;⁹³ and
 - (v) the Minister is satisfied the applicant has substantially complied with the original lease.
- (3) The matters that may be considered in making the division include the development plan for the original lease, the proposed later development plans and the capability criteria.
- (4) The Minister may, as a condition of making the division, require the applicant to, under section 488, give security or

92 See division 4, subdivision 5 (Approval of proposed later development plans).

93 See sections 35(2)(e)(iii) (Call for tenders) and 43 (Criteria for decisions).

additional security for all or any of the new leases within a stated reasonable period.

- (5) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the division may be refused.

174 Provisions of new leases

- (1) Subject to this section, section 123 applies for the provisions of a new lease as if it were a petroleum lease granted under division 2.
- (2) However, the term of each new lease must not end later than the end of the term of the original lease.
- (3) For any relinquishment condition for the new leases—
 - (a) the new leases are taken to have originally taken effect when the original lease originally took effect; and
 - (b) land within any sub-block that the original lease states is included in the area of the original lease is divided rateably between the new leases; and
 - (c) for working out previous relinquishments that are counted for the relinquishment condition for each new lease, the relinquishments previously counted for the relinquishment condition for the original lease are divided rateably between the new leases.

175 Steps after deciding application

- (1) After the provisions of the new leases are decided, the applicant and anyone else who will be a holder of any new lease, must be given notice of the relevant provisions and development plans.⁹⁴
- (2) On refusal to make the division, the applicant must be given notice of the refusal.

⁹⁴ For noncompliance action started, or that could have been taken, against the original lease holder, see section 792 (Provision for divided petroleum tenures).

Part 3 Data acquisition authorities

Division 1 Obtaining data acquisition authority

176 Who may apply for data acquisition authority

- (1) A petroleum tenure holder may apply for a data acquisition authority to allow the applicant to carry out the following activities (*data acquisition activities*)—
 - (a) geophysical surveys on land (the *data acquisition land*) contiguous to land in the area of the tenure to enable the applicant to acquire data relevant to authorised activities under the tenure;
 - (b) the entering of the data acquisition land to carry out the geophysical surveys.
- (2) However, the application can not be made or granted for land in the area of another petroleum tenure.

177 Requirements for making application

The application must be—

- (a) in the approved form; and
- (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging data acquisition authority applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

178 Deciding application for data acquisition authority

- (1) The Minister may grant or refuse the data acquisition authority.

- (2) However, the data acquisition authority can not be granted unless a relevant environmental authority for the data acquisition authority has been issued.
- (3) The authority must state its term and the area subject to the authority.
- (4) The term must end no later than 1 year after the authority takes effect.
- (5) The authority may also state—
 - (a) conditions or other provisions of the authority, other than conditions or provisions that are—
 - (i) inconsistent with section 180, 181 or 184A or any other mandatory condition for data acquisition authorities; or
Note—
Chapter 5 also imposes mandatory conditions on data acquisition authorities. In particular, see chapter 5, part 8.
 - (ii) inconsistent with a condition of the petroleum tenure to which the authority relates; or
 - (iii) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the authority; and
 - (b) the day it takes effect.
- (6) However, the provisions of the authority may exclude or restrict the carrying out of data acquisition activities.
- (7) The Minister may, as a condition of deciding to grant the authority, require the applicant to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—
 - (a) pay the annual rent for the authority;
 - (b) give, under section 488, security for the authority.
- (8) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the application may be refused.

179 Notice of refusal

On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given notice of the decision to refuse.⁹⁵

Division 2 Provisions for data acquisition authorities⁹⁶**180 Key authorised activities**

- (1) A data acquisition authority authorises its holder to carry out data acquisition activities in the area of the authority.
- (2) The authorised activities may be carried out despite the rights of an owner or occupier of land on which they are exercised.
- (3) However, the carrying out of the data acquisition activities is subject to—
 - (a) section 6; and
 - (b) chapter 3, part 4, division 2; and
 - (c) chapter 3A, part 5; and
 - (d) chapter 5; and
 - (e) the mandatory and other conditions of the authority; and
 - (f) any exclusion or restriction provided for in the authority on the carrying out of the activities.

181 Additional condition of relevant petroleum tenure

If a condition is imposed on a data acquisition authority (the *authority condition*), it is a condition of the petroleum tenure to which the authority relates that the tenure holder must

95 See also the *Judicial Review Act 1991*, section 32 (Request for statement of reasons).

96 See also chapter 5 (Common petroleum authority provisions).

comply with the authority condition.

Note—

Chapter 5 also imposes mandatory conditions on data acquisition authorities. In particular, see chapter 5, part 2, division 3 and chapter 5, part 8.

182 Authority holder is the relevant petroleum tenure holder from time to time

The holder of a data acquisition authority is taken to be the person who, from time to time, holds the petroleum tenure to which the authority relates.

183 Authority ends if relevant petroleum tenure ends

A data acquisition authority ends if the petroleum tenure to which it relates ends.

184 Relationship with subsequent petroleum tenure

- (1) This section applies if a petroleum tenure is granted over land in the area of a data acquisition authority
- (2) The grant does not limit the authority or its term.
- (3) However, an authorised activity for the authority may be carried out on the land only if—
 - (a) carrying out the activity does not adversely affect the carrying out of an authorised activity for the tenure; or
 - (b) the agreement conditions have been complied with.
- (4) In this section—

agreement conditions means that—

 - (a) the tenure holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
 - (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the agreement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or

- (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) the agreement is still in force.

184A Annual rent

- (1) A data acquisition authority holder must pay the State the rent, as prescribed under a regulation.⁹⁷
- (2) The rent must be paid in the way, and on or before the day, prescribed under a regulation.

Part 4 Water rights for petroleum tenures

185 Underground water rights

- (1) A petroleum tenure holder may do any of the following in relation to underground water in the area of the tenure—
 - (a) take or interfere with the water if taking or interference happens during the course of, or results from, the carrying out of another authorised activity for the tenure;
Examples—
 - 1 underground water necessarily or unavoidably taken during the drilling of a petroleum well or water observation bore
 - 2 underground water necessarily or unavoidably taken during petroleum production authorised under section 32 or 109
 - (b) use water mentioned in paragraph (a) for carrying out of another authorised activity for the tenure;
 - (c) take or interfere with the water for use in the carrying out of another authorised activity for the tenure.⁹⁸

97 See also section 588 (Interest on amounts owing to the State other than for petroleum royalty).

98 See part 1, division 1 and part 2, division 1 (Key authorised activities).

- (2) The rights under subsection (1)—
- (a) are the ***underground water rights*** for the petroleum tenure; and
 - (b) are subject to the tenure holder complying with the holder's underground water obligations.
- (3) There is no limit to the volume of water that may be taken under the underground water rights.
- (4) Underground water taken or interfered with, under subsection (1)(a), from a petroleum well is ***associated water***.
- (5) The tenure holder may use associated water only for an another authorised activity for the tenure.

Note—

If the tenure holder wishes to use associated water for another purpose, the holder must obtain a water licence. See sections 188 and 189 and the Water Act, section 19. To obtain a water licence see the Water Act, chapter 2, part 6.

- (6) The taking or interference with water under subsection (1)(c) may be carried out by drilling a bore.
- (7) The bore and its casing, wellhead and any other works constructed in connection with it is a ***water supply bore***.
- (8) In this section—
- another authorised activity***, for the petroleum tenure, means an authorised activity for the tenure under part 1, division 1 or part 2, division 1.

186 Right to allow use of associated water for domestic or stock purposes

A petroleum tenure holder may allow an owner or occupier of any of the following land to use, on that land, associated water taken by the tenure holder for domestic purposes or stock purposes—

- (a) land in the area of the tenure;
- (b) land that—

- (i) joins land in the area of the tenure; and
- (ii) is owned by the same person.⁹⁹

187 Water monitoring activities

- (1) A petroleum tenure holder may carry out any of the following activities in the area of the holder's tenure to comply with its underground water obligations for the tenure—
 - (a) gathering information about, or undertaking an assessment of, a water bore;
 - (b) monitoring effects of the exercise of underground water rights for the tenure;
 - (c) constructing or plugging and abandoning a water observation bore;
 - (d) gathering information for preparing an underground water impact report or final report under the Water Act, chapter 3;
 - (e) carrying out any other activity necessary to comply with an underground water obligation of the holder.
- (2) An activity mentioned in subsection (1) is a ***water monitoring activity***.
- (3) In this section—
water bore see the Water Act, schedule 4.

188 Authorisation for Water Act

For the Water Act, the following are taken to be authorised—

- (a) the taking or interference with or the use of water, under the underground water rights;
- (b) the use, under section 186, of associated water.¹⁰⁰

99 For taking of associated water for other purposes, see the Water Act, chapter 2, part 6 (Water licences and permits).

100 See the Water Act, section 808 (Unauthorised taking, supplying or interfering with water).

189 Water Act not otherwise affected

To remove any doubt, it is declared that a petroleum tenure holder can not take or interfere with or use water as defined under the Water Act unless the taking or interference or use is authorised under this part or the Water Act.¹⁰¹

Part 5 Water monitoring authorities**Division 1 Obtaining water monitoring authority****190 Who may apply for water monitoring authority**

- (1) A petroleum tenure holder may apply for a water monitoring authority for stated land outside the area of the tenure to allow the holder to comply with the holder's underground water obligations for the tenure.
- (2) The application may be made or granted—
 - (a) over land in the area of another petroleum authority; and
 - (b) for 1 or more petroleum tenures held by the same applicant.

191 Requirements for making application

The application must be—

- (a) in the approved form; and
- (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging water monitoring authority applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or

101 See the Water Act, sections 20 (Authorised taking of water without water entitlement) and 808 (Unauthorised taking, supplying or interfering with water).

- (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
- (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

192 Deciding application for water monitoring authority

- (1) The Minister may grant or refuse the water monitoring authority.
- (2) However, the water monitoring authority must not be granted unless a relevant environmental authority for the water monitoring authority has been issued.
- (3) The Minister may, before deciding the application, seek advice about the application from the chief executive of the department administering the Water Act.
- (4) The authority must state its area and each petroleum tenure to which it relates.
- (5) The authority may also state—
 - (a) conditions or other provisions of the authority, other than conditions or provisions that are—
 - (i) inconsistent with division 2 or section 202 or 202A or any other mandatory condition for water monitoring authorities; or

Note—

Chapter 5 also imposes mandatory conditions on water monitoring authorities. In particular, see chapter 5, part 8.

- (ii) inconsistent with a condition of any petroleum tenure to which the authority relates; or
- (iii) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the authority; and
- (b) the day it takes effect.
- (6) However, the provisions of the authority may exclude or restrict the carrying out of water monitoring activities, if the exclusion or restriction does not prevent the holder from complying with the holder's underground water obligations.

- (7) The Minister may, as a condition of deciding to grant the authority, require the applicant to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—
 - (a) pay the annual rent for the first year of the authority;
 - (b) give, under section 488, security for the authority.
- (8) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the application may be refused.

Division 2 Key authorised activities

193 Operation of div 2

- (1) This division provides for the key authorised activities for a water monitoring authority.¹⁰²
- (2) The authorised activities may be carried out despite the rights of an owner or occupier of land on which they are exercised.
- (3) However, the carrying out of the authorised activities is subject to—
 - (a) sections 6, 197 and 198; and
 - (b) chapter 3, part 4, division 2; and
 - (c) chapter 3A, part 5; and
 - (d) chapter 5; and
 - (e) the mandatory and other conditions of the authority; and
 - (f) any exclusion or restriction provided for in the authority on the carrying out of the activities.

194 Water monitoring activities

The authority holder may carry out any water monitoring activity in the area of the authority.

¹⁰² For other authorised activities, see chapter 5, part 2, division 3 (Access to private land outside area of petroleum authority) and part 8 (General provisions for conditions and authorised activities).

195 Limited right to take or interfere with underground water

The authority holder may take or interfere with underground water only to the extent that the taking or interference is the unavoidable result of carrying out a water monitoring activity in the area of the authority.

Example—

the taking of or interference with underground water during the drilling or maintenance of a water observation bore in the area

196 Authorisation for Water Act

For the Water Act, the taking of or interference with underground water, under section 195, is taken to be authorised.¹⁰³

197 Water Act not otherwise affected

To remove any doubt, it is declared that the water monitoring authority holder can not take or interfere with water as defined under the Water Act unless the taking or interference is authorised under this division or the Water Act.¹⁰⁴

198 Restriction on carrying out authorised activities

In carrying out an authorised activity for the water monitoring authority, the holder must not interfere with the carrying out of an authorised activity for a petroleum tenure, or of another water monitoring authority, the area of which includes the area of the authority.

Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.

199 No right to petroleum discovered

To remove any doubt, it is declared that the discovery of petroleum while carrying out an authorised activity for the

103 See the Water Act, section 808 (Unauthorised taking, supplying or interfering with water).

104 See the Water Act, sections 20 (Authorised taking of water without water entitlement) and 808 (Unauthorised taking, supplying or interfering with water).

authority does not, of itself, give the authority holder a right to the petroleum.

Division 3 Miscellaneous provisions

200 Term of authority

Subject to chapter 10, part 2, division 4, a water monitoring authority continues in force until there is no longer any petroleum tenure to which the authority relates.

201 Provision for who is the authority holder

- (1) If there is only 1 petroleum tenure to which a water monitoring authority relates, the authority holder is taken to be the person who, from time to time, holds the petroleum tenure to which the authority relates.
- (2) Subsections (3) and (4) apply if there is more than 1 petroleum tenure to which a water monitoring authority relates.
- (3) If, under chapter 5, part 10, all of the tenures are transferred to the same person, the transferee is taken to be the holder of the authority.
- (4) If, under chapter 5, part 10, 1 or more but not all of the tenures are transferred to the same person, the person from whom the tenures were transferred continues to be the holder of the water monitoring authority.¹⁰⁵

202 Additional condition of relevant petroleum tenure

If a condition is imposed on a water monitoring authority (the *authority condition*), it is a condition of each petroleum tenure to which the authority relates that the tenure holder must comply with the authority condition.

¹⁰⁵ See also section 569 (Prohibited dealings).

202A Annual rent

- (1) A water monitoring authority holder must pay the State the annual rent, as prescribed under a regulation.¹⁰⁶
- (2) The annual rent must be paid in the way, and on or before the day, prescribed under a regulation.

203 Amending water monitoring authority by application

- (1) The holder of a water monitoring authority may apply for the amendment of it—
 - (a) to increase or decrease its area; or
 - (b) to add or omit, or reflect an amendment of, a petroleum tenure that relates to the authority.
- (2) The holder can not apply for the amendment of the authority in any other way.
- (3) The application must be—
 - (a) in the approved form; and
 - (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the application, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (4) The Minister may grant or refuse the amendment.
- (5) However, the Minister may, before deciding the application, seek advice about the application from the chief executive of the department administering the Water Act.
- (6) The amendment may be granted (a *conditional grant*) subject to the applicant's written agreement to the Minister amending

106 See also section 588 (Interest on amounts owing to the State other than for petroleum royalty).

the authority in a stated way that the Minister considers appropriate.¹⁰⁷

- (7) On refusal of the application or the making of a decision to make a conditional grant, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse or to make the conditional grant.

Part 6 Third party storage access to natural underground reservoirs

Division 1 Purpose of part

204 Purpose of pt 6

The purpose of this part is for the State to encourage appropriate use of natural underground reservoirs for storage.

Division 2 Storage agreements and related provisions

Subdivision 1 Storage agreements

205 Meaning of *storage agreement* and *existing user*

- (1) A petroleum lease holder may agree (a *storage agreement*) with someone else (an *existing user*) to use a natural underground reservoir in the area of the lease to store petroleum or a prescribed storage gas.¹⁰⁸

107 See section 848 (Power to correct or amend).

See also chapter 5, part 1 (Security).

108 See also section 220 (Preferred tenderer may make storage agreements).

- (2) However, the lease holder can not enter into a storage agreement for any of the reservoir's storage capacity already agreed to be provided under another storage agreement.
- (3) The existing user may agree with someone else to store petroleum or a prescribed storage gas in the reservoir to the extent of its storage capacity agreed to be used under the existing user's storage agreement with the lease holder.
- (4) However, the existing user may make the agreement only if it complies with the storage agreement between the lease holder and the existing user.
- (5) An agreement under subsection (3) is also a *storage agreement*.
- (6) A person for whom petroleum or a prescribed storage gas is, or is entitled to be, stored under a storage agreement under subsection (3) is also an *existing user* of the reservoir.

206 Development plan overrides storage agreement

If a provision of a storage agreement conflicts with the development plan for the relevant petroleum lease, the development plan prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

207 Existing user's obligation to give information

Each existing user of a natural underground reservoir in the area of a petroleum lease must give the lease holder the information the holder reasonably requires for the safe and reliable use of the reservoir.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

Subdivision 2 Negotiation obligations of petroleum lease holders and existing users

208 Application of sdiv 2

- (1) This subdivision applies to a petroleum lease holder or an existing user who has available storage capacity for a natural

underground reservoir.

- (2) A petroleum lease holder has **available storage capacity** for a natural underground reservoir if the reservoir is in the area of the lease and it has, or is likely to have, storage capacity that—
 - (a) the lease holder has not already agreed to provide under a storage agreement that is in force (the **contracted capacity**); and
 - (b) does not interfere with the carrying out of authorised activities for the lease; and
 - (c) is either—
 - (i) spare; or
 - (ii) would, if additions of plant were made, or works carried out to increase the reservoir's storage capacity, be spare;¹⁰⁹ and
 - (d) is technically and practicably feasible, safe and reliable to use.
- (3) However, the contracted capacity, or a part of the contracted capacity, becomes available storage capacity again if—
 - (a) the existing user of the reservoir gives the lease holder a notice stating the user no longer requires that capacity; and
 - (b) the contracted capacity would otherwise be available storage capacity under subsection (2).
- (4) A notice under subsection (3)(a) may be given for all or a stated part of the contracted capacity.
- (5) An existing user of a natural underground reservoir has **available storage capacity** if the reservoir has, or is likely to have, storage capacity agreed to be provided to the existing user under a storage agreement that the existing user is not using and does not expect to use.

¹⁰⁹ Storage capacity mentioned in subparagraph (ii) is commonly called developable capacity.

209 Obligation to negotiate with proposed users

- (1) A person (a *proposed user*) may give the lease holder or existing user a notice requiring the holder or existing user to, within a stated reasonable time, start negotiations to attempt to reach a storage agreement for available storage capacity for the reservoir.
- (2) Subject to section 210, the holder or existing user must negotiate in good faith with the proposed user to attempt to reach a fair and reasonable storage agreement with the proposed user.

Maximum penalty for subsection (2)—500 penalty units.

210 Obligation about priority for proposed users

- (1) If—
 - (a) a petroleum lease holder or existing user has started negotiations mentioned in section 209(2) (the *first negotiations*) with a proposed user; and
 - (b) after the start of the first negotiations, the lease holder or existing user starts negotiations mentioned in section 209(2) (the *second negotiations*) with another proposed user; and
 - (c) the first negotiations have not ended;

the lease holder or existing user must, as far as practicable, ensure the first negotiations are not unreasonably affected by the second negotiations.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) Despite subsection (1), the existing user has priority to negotiate for the storage capacity of the reservoir that will, when the storage agreement by the lease holder (the *existing agreement*) ends, be available storage capacity for the lease holder.
- (3) However, the priority under subsection (2)—
 - (a) applies only to the extent the storage capacity sought is no more than the existing user's entitlement under the existing agreement in the last year before it is to end

according to its provisions; and

- (b) ceases 2 years before the existing agreement ends.

211 Obligation to give information

- (1) A proposed user may ask the lease holder or existing user for all information that—
- (a) the lease holder or existing user has about the lease holder's or existing user's available storage capacity for the reservoir; and
 - (b) is reasonably necessary to allow the proposed user to negotiate a fair and reasonable storage agreement with the lease holder or existing user.

Examples of possible information about available storage capacity—

the amount of the storage capacity and details of the nature and quality of gas already stored in the reservoir

- (2) The lease holder or existing user must—
- (a) give the information within a reasonable period after receiving the request; and
 - (b) if the information has been sought by, or given to another proposed user—ensure it is given on a non-discriminatory basis.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (3) For subsection (2)(b), information is given on a non-discriminatory basis if it is—
- (a) the same, or substantially the same, information as that given to other proposed users; or
 - (b) not so different from information given to other proposed users as to disadvantage the proposed user.
- (4) For subsection (3)(a), if the reservoir's available storage capacity has changed since someone else was given the information, the information given to the proposed user is taken to be substantially the same if, other than for differences that reflect the change, it is the same or substantially the same.

Division 3 Provisions for stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas after petroleum lease ends

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

212 Application of div 3

- (1) This division applies if—
 - (a) a petroleum lease (the *old lease*) ends; and
 - (b) a natural underground reservoir in the area of the old lease is, under a storage agreement, being used to store petroleum or a prescribed storage gas.
- (2) For subsection (1)(a), if an application has been made to renew the old lease and the application is refused, the old lease does not end until the refusal takes effect.¹¹⁰
- (3) Subsection (1) applies even if the storage agreement has, under its own terms, ceased to have effect.

Subdivision 2 Claiming stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas

213 Notice to claim for stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas

- (1) The Minister must by gazette notice, invite anyone who claims ownership of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas to make that claim by giving a notice that complies with subsection (2) (a *notice of claim*).
- (2) A notice of claim must—
 - (a) be lodged at the following office within 30 business days after the gazettal—

110 See section 167 (When refusal takes effect).

- (i) the office of the department for lodging notices of claim, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
- (b) state details, and include evidence of, each of the following—
 - (i) any relevant storage agreement;
 - (ii) how the claimant became the owner of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas;
 - (iii) how much of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas is claimed;
 - (iv) steps taken by the claimant to recover the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas during the term of the old lease; and
- (c) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

214 Property in stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas if no notice of claim

If no notice of claim is lodged within the 30 business days, the stored petroleum and prescribed storage gas is taken to have become the property of the State immediately after the old lease ended.¹¹¹

Subdivision 3 Deciding claims

215 Deciding claims

- (1) This section applies if within the 30 business days, a notice of claim is lodged.

¹¹¹ For property in other petroleum in the reservoir, see section 26 (Petroleum the property of the State).

- (2) The Minister must decide whether, immediately before the old lease ended, the claimant owned any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas.
- (3) The Minister may decide that the claimant does not own any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas if the Minister considers the claimant did not take reasonable steps to recover it during the term of the old lease.
- (4) Subsection (3) applies even if the Minister would, other than for the subsection, have decided that the claimant owned the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas immediately before the old lease ended.
- (5) If it is decided that the claimant owns any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas, the claimant is taken to have been its owner from when the old lease ended.
- (6) On deciding a claimant does not own any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas claimed, the claimant must be given an information notice about the decision.

216 State property in stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas to extent claims are not upheld

- (1) If, under section 215, it is decided that no claimant owned any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas, the gas is taken to have become the property of the State immediately after the old lease ended.
- (2) If, under section 215, it is decided that no claimant owned part of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas, that part is taken to have become the property of the State immediately after the old lease ended.

Subdivision 4 Dealing with upheld claims

217 Application of sdiv 4

This subdivision applies if, under section 215, it is decided any claimant owns any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas.

218 Call for tenders required

The Minister must make a call for tenders under section 127 for a proposed petroleum lease the area of which includes the reservoir.

219 Requirement to notify change in ownership

- (1) If the claimant ceases to own any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas, the claimant must lodge at the relevant office a notice stating—
 - (a) the name and contact details of any new owner of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas; and
 - (b) how much of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas the new owner became the owner of.
- (2) If the new owner, or any one who subsequently acquires any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas, ceases to own any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas, the new owner or other person must lodge a notice under subsection (1) at the relevant office.
- (3) This section does not apply or ceases to apply if—
 - (a) the petroleum or prescribed storage gas ceases to be stored in the reservoir; or
 - (b) the claimant or any new owner is granted a petroleum lease the area of which includes the reservoir; or
 - (c) a storage agreement is made for the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas to which agreement the claimant or any new owner is a party; or
 - (d) under section 226, the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas becomes the property of the State.
- (4) In this section—

relevant office means—

 - (a) the office of the department for lodging notice of change of ownership, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

220 Preferred tenderer may make storage agreements

- (1) A preferred tenderer appointed for the call for tenders¹¹² may enter into a storage agreement with the following persons, as if the preferred tenderer held the petroleum lease and the lease has taken effect—
 - (a) if no notices have been lodged under section 219—the claimant;
 - (b) if any notice has been lodged under section 219—any person who, according to notices lodged under that section, owns the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas.
- (2) A person with whom the preferred tenderer may, under subsection (1), enter into a storage agreement is a **current owner** of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas.

221 Negotiation notice

- (1) This section applies if, as a result of the call for tenders, a petroleum lease (a **non-owner lease**) is granted to someone other than a current owner of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas.
- (2) The Minister must—
 - (a) give each current owner of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas a notice (a **negotiation notice**) stating—
 - (i) who holds the non-owner lease; and
 - (ii) a period within which all current owners of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas have to reach a storage agreement with the holder; and
 - (b) give the holder a copy of the negotiation notice.

222 Obligation of holder to negotiate with current owners

On the giving of the negotiation notice to the non-owner lease

112 For the power to appoint a preferred tenderer, see section 130 (Process for deciding tenders).

holder, the holder must, in good faith, negotiate with all current owners of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas to attempt to reach a fair and reasonable storage agreement with them.

223 Taking of effect of non-owner lease

- (1) This section applies despite section 123 and any provision of a non-owner lease.¹¹³
- (2) The non-owner lease does not take effect until the day of effect fixed by the Minister, as notified to its holder.
- (3) The Minister must not fix the day of effect unless—
 - (a) the holder has, at the following office (the *relevant office*), lodged a notice stating that the holder has entered into a storage agreement with any current owner of stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas—
 - (i) the office of the department for notices of entry into a storage agreement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; or
 - (b) all current owners of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas have, at the relevant office, lodged a notice relinquishing their ownership of any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas (an *ownership relinquishment notice*); or
 - (c) the period stated in the negotiation notice has ended and the Minister is satisfied the holder has complied with section 222.

224 Cancellation of non-owner lease in particular circumstances

Subject to section 225, the non-owner lease is cancelled and is taken never to have had any effect if the Minister has not fixed

113 See section 133 (Provisions of petroleum lease).

the day of effect before the last of the following days—

- (a) the day of the first anniversary of the grant of the non-owner lease;
- (b) a later day stated in the non-owner lease.

225 Annual rent for non-owner lease

- (1) This section applies despite section 155 or any provision of the non-owner lease.
- (2) Annual rent under section 155 for a non-owner lease is payable from granting of the lease.
- (3) If, under section 224, the non-owner lease is cancelled the rent is still payable from the grant until it was cancelled.

226 State property in stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas in particular circumstances

Any of the stored petroleum or prescribed gas that a current owner owns becomes the property of the State—

- (a) if the current owner gives an ownership relinquishment notice for it; or
- (b) on the fifth anniversary of the making of the decision under section 215, unless, before that anniversary—
 - (i) a petroleum lease the area of which includes the reservoir is granted; and
 - (ii) the lease takes effect.

227 Storage rent payable by current owner

- (1) Each person who is a current owner of any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas must pay the State rent for storing the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas that the current owner owns from time to time.
- (2) The rent is payable from when the person became the current owner of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas until the earlier of the following events to happen—

- (a) the person ceases to be the current owner of any of the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas;
 - (b) the taking effect of a petroleum lease the area of which includes the reservoir;
 - (c) under section 226, the stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas becomes the property of the State.
- (3) The rent must be paid at the rate and in the way prescribed under a regulation.

Division 4 Regulatory provisions

228 Prohibition on actions preventing access

- (1) A person must not engage in conduct for the purpose of preventing someone else from obtaining the use of a natural underground reservoir with available storage capacity in the area of a petroleum lease for storage of petroleum or a prescribed storage gas.

Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.

- (2) For subsection (1)—
- (a) a person engages in conduct for a particular purpose if—
 - (i) the conduct is or was engaged in for the purpose or for a purpose including the purpose; and
 - (ii) the purpose is or was not an incidental or unintended consequence of the conduct engaged in; and
 - (b) a person may be found to have engaged in conduct for a purpose even though, after all the evidence has been considered, the existence of the purpose is ascertainable only by inference from the conduct of the person or of someone else or from other relevant circumstances.
- (3) Subsection (2)(b) does not limit the way the purpose of a person may be established for subsection (1).
- (4) In this section—

engage, in conduct, means doing, or refusing to do, an act.

Examples of engaging in conduct—

- refusing to supply a service
- without reasonable grounds, limiting or disrupting a service
- making, or giving effect to, a provision of an understanding
- requiring the giving of, or giving, a covenant

refusing to do, an act, includes—

- (a) refraining, other than inadvertently, from doing the act;
or
- (b) making it known the act will not be done.

229 Orders to enforce prohibition on preventing access

- (1) This section applies if, on application of a person, the District Court is satisfied someone else (the **obstructor**) has engaged, is engaging, or proposes to engage, in conduct contrary to section 228.
- (2) The court may make all or any of the following orders—
 - (a) an order granting an injunction, on terms the court considers appropriate—
 - (i) restraining the obstructor from engaging in the conduct; or
 - (ii) if the conduct involves failing to do something—requiring the obstructor to do the thing;
 - (b) an order directing the obstructor to compensate a person for loss or damage suffered by the person because of the conduct;
 - (c) another order the court considers appropriate.
- (3) The court may make any other order, including an injunction, it considers appropriate against another person involved in the conduct.
- (4) The grounds on which the court may decide not to make an order under this section include the ground that this part or a

relevant storage agreement provides a more appropriate way of dealing with the issue.

Part 7 **Commercial viability assessment**

230 Minister's power to require commercial viability report

- (1) The Minister may, by notice (a *report requirement*), require a petroleum tenure holder to lodge at the relevant office a written report (a *commercial viability report*) about all or a stated part of its area¹¹⁴ if—
 - (a) the holder is not producing petroleum in the area or stated part; and
 - (b) the Minister is of the opinion that—
 - (i) it may be commercially viable to produce or store petroleum in the area or stated part; or
 - (ii) it may, within the next 15 years, be commercially viable to produce or store petroleum in the area or stated part.¹¹⁵
- (2) The notice must state each of the following—
 - (a) the Minister's opinion under subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii);
 - (b) the facts and circumstances forming the basis for the opinion;
 - (c) that the Minister requires the holder to give the Minister a commercial viability report about the area;
 - (d) a reasonable period for giving the report.
- (3) In this section—

relevant office means—

114 See section 94 (Potential commercial area still part of authority).

115 For the relevance of this period, see part 1, division 6 (Potential commercial areas).

- (a) the office of the department for lodging the commercial viability report, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
- (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

231 Required content of commercial viability report

- (1) A commercial viability report must do all of the following—
 - (a) identify each natural underground reservoir in the area the subject of the relevant report requirement;
 - (b) give an estimate of the amount of petroleum in each reservoir;
 - (c) state the standards and procedures used to make the estimate;
 - (d) state whether, in the opinion of the relevant petroleum tenure holder, it is commercially viable to produce or store petroleum in the area;
 - (e) if the holder's opinion is that it is not commercially viable to produce or store petroleum in the area—state whether, in the holder's opinion, it will, within the next 15 years, be commercially viable to produce or store petroleum in the area;
 - (f) give data, and an analysis of the data, that supports each opinion.
- (2) The supporting data and analysis must include—
 - (a) technical data relating to the geology of, and natural underground reservoirs in the area; and
 - (b) market and financial data relevant to the opinions.

232 Minister's power to obtain independent viability assessment

- (1) This section applies for a petroleum tenure, whether or not its holder has lodged a commercial viability report about the tenure.

- (2) The Minister may obtain an independent assessment of the commercial viability of petroleum production or storage in all or part of the area of the tenure (an *independent viability assessment*).
- (3) However, before seeking the assessment, the Minister must give the holder a notice stating each of the following—
 - (a) that the Minister proposes to obtain the assessment;
 - (b) the Minister's reasons for seeking the assessment;
 - (c) the likely costs of obtaining the assessment;
 - (d) whether the State will, under section 233, seek to recover the costs;
 - (e) that the holder may, within a stated reasonable period, lodge submissions about the proposed assessment at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (4) Any submissions lodged by the holder within the stated period must be considered.
- (5) The Minister must after receiving the assessment, give the holder a copy.

233 Costs of independent viability assessment

If—

- (a) the Minister has incurred costs in obtaining, under section 232, an independent viability assessment about a petroleum tenure; and
- (b) the notice under section 232 about the assessment stated that the State will seek to recover the costs; and
- (c) the Minister has given the petroleum tenure holder a notice requiring the holder to pay a reasonable amount for the costs;

the holder must pay the State a reasonable amount for the costs.

Part 8 **Petroleum activities coordination**

234 **Arrangement to coordinate petroleum activities**

- (1) The following persons may make an arrangement about a matter mentioned in subsection (2)—
 - (a) the holder of a 1923 Act lease;
 - (b) the applicant for, or the holder of, a petroleum lease;
 - (c) the applicant for, or the holder of, a mining lease.
- (2) For subsection (1), the matters are—
 - (a) the orderly—
 - (i) production of petroleum from a natural underground reservoir under more than 1 of the leases; or
 - (ii) carrying out of an authorised activity for any of the leases by any party to the arrangement; and
 - (b) petroleum production from more than 1 natural underground reservoir under more than 1 of the leases.
- (3) The arrangement may—
 - (a) be for any term; and
 - (b) if each holder of a relevant mining or petroleum lease agrees, provide for a matter that is inconsistent with, to the extent mentioned in subsection (3A), or not provided for under the leases or their conditions; and
 - (c) provide for—
 - (i) the subleasing of, or of an interest in, a relevant petroleum lease to a party to the arrangement or someone else; and

- (ii) a party to the arrangement to be granted a pipeline licence to transport petroleum or a prescribed storage gas on land subject to the arrangement.
- (3A) For subsection (3)(b), the arrangement may only be inconsistent with 1 or more of the following—
 - (a) when a petroleum lease holder must start petroleum production under section 154(1);
 - (b) the development plan or the proposed development plan for a lease mentioned in subsection (1);
 - (c) the conditions of the lease imposed under—
 - (i) the 1923 Act, section 44(d); or
 - (ii) section 123(3); or
 - (iii) the Mineral Resources Act, section 276(1)(n) or 276(3).
- (4) A person other than the holder, or proposed holder, of a relevant lease may also be a party to a coordination arrangement.
- (5) A coordination arrangement has no effect unless it is approved by the Minister under section 236.
- (6) In this section—
 - authorised activity***, for—
 - (a) a mining lease, means an activity that, under the Mineral Resources Act, is an authorised activity for the lease; or
 - (b) a 1923 Act lease, means an activity that, under the 1923 Act, is an authorised activity for the lease.

production includes mining, extraction, production or release carried out under a mining lease.

relevant lease means—

- (a) 2 or more petroleum leases; or
- (b) 2 or more 1923 Act leases; or
- (c) 1 or more petroleum leases and 1 or more 1923 Act leases, in any combination; or

- (d) 1 or more mining lease and 1 or more petroleum leases or 1923 Act leases, in any combination.

Notes—

- 1 Under the Mineral Resources Act, a coal or oil shale mining lease holder has a limited entitlement to mine and use incidental coal seam gas, which is *petroleum*. See section 10 of this Act and the Mineral Resources Act, part 7AA, division 8, subdivision 1.
- 2 A coordination arrangement may provide for mining or production from coextensive natural underground reservoirs. See section 114 and the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CQ.

235 Applying for ministerial approval of proposed coordination arrangement

- (1) The parties to a proposed coordination arrangement may jointly apply for approval of the arrangement.
- (2) The application must be—
 - (a) written; and
 - (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging applications under this section, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) accompanied by—
 - (i) the original or a certified copy of the proposed arrangement; and
 - (ii) the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) If the proposed arrangement is inconsistent with the current development plan for a relevant lease, the application must be accompanied by a proposed later development plan for the lease.

- (4) If the proposed plan is for a relevant mining lease, the plan must comply with the later development plan requirements under the Mineral Resources Act.¹¹⁶
- (5) If the proposed plan is for a relevant 1923 Act lease, the plan must comply with the later development plan requirements under the 1923 Act.

236 Ministerial approval of proposed coordination arrangement

- (1) The Minister may approve the proposed coordination arrangement only if—
 - (a) the Minister is satisfied—
 - (i) the arrangement is in the public interest; and
 - (ii) any inconsistency between the arrangement and a condition of a relevant lease and any sublease provided for under the arrangement is appropriate; and
 - (iii) if the arrangement applies to land that is in the area of a coal or oil shale mining tenement and in the area of a petroleum lease or 1923 Act lease—the arrangement clearly identifies the safety responsibilities of each party to the arrangement in relation to the land; and
 - (iv) the spatial relationship between the relevant leases for the arrangement is appropriate.
 - (b) for an application required to be accompanied by a proposed later development plan for a relevant lease—the proposed plan has been approved; and
 - (c) the arrangement is consistent with—
 - (i) the purpose of this Act; and

116 See the Mineral Resources Act, section 318ED (Later development plan requirements).

- (ii) if any relevant lease is a mining lease—the purposes of chapter 3 and the objectives of the Mineral Resources Act.¹¹⁷
- (2) Also, if the proposed plan is for a relevant 1923 Act lease, the relevant provisions of that Act apply in relation to the proposed plan.
- (3) The Minister may refuse to approve a proposed coordination arrangement that provides for a party to the arrangement to be granted a pipeline licence to transport petroleum or a prescribed storage gas on land subject to the arrangement if the Minister considers that—
 - (a) having regard to the requirements under chapter 4, the pipeline licence would not be granted if the party were to apply for it; or
 - (b) not enough information has been given to decide whether the licence should be granted; or
 - (c) the spatial relationship between the leases is not appropriate for a coordination arrangement.
- (4) If a relevant lease has not been granted, the approval does not take effect until the lease takes effect.

237 Approval does not confer right to renew

To remove any doubt, it is declared that if the term of a coordination arrangement is longer than the current term of any relevant lease, the approval of the arrangement does not impose an obligation or right to renew the lease.

238 Subleasing of 1923 Act lease provided for under coordination arrangement

On the approval of a coordination arrangement that provides for the subleasing of a 1923 Act lease, the sublease is taken to have been approved, under that Act, as a dealing under that Act.

117 See sections 3 (Main purpose of Act) and 295 (Main purposes of ch 3) and the Mineral Resources Act, section 2 (Objectives of Act).

239 Coordination arrangement overrides relevant leases

- (1) This section applies if there is a conflict between a coordination arrangement and a condition of a relevant lease.
- (2) The arrangement prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.
- (3) If a relevant lease holder has complied with the arrangement, the holder is taken to have complied with the condition to the extent that it is inconsistent with the arrangement.
- (4) This section applies despite another provision of this Act, the 1923 Act or the Mineral Resources Act.

240 Grant of pipeline licence

- (1) This section applies if a coordination arrangement provides for a party to the arrangement to be granted a pipeline licence to transport petroleum or a prescribed storage gas on land subject to the arrangement.
- (2) The Minister may, if the party applies under chapter 4, part 2, grant the pipeline licence.
- (3) Section 412 applies as if the application were a pipeline licence application.
- (4) However, the provisions of the licence must be consistent with the arrangement.

241 Amendment or cancellation by parties to arrangement

- (1) A coordination arrangement may be amended or cancelled by the parties to the arrangement only with the Minister's approval.
- (2) A purported amendment or cancellation of a coordination arrangement by the parties to it has no effect unless it complies with subsection (1).

242 Minister's power to cancel arrangement

- (1) The Minister may, by complying with subsections (2) and (3), cancel a coordination arrangement.

- (2) If the Minister proposes to cancel the arrangement, the Minister must give each holder of a relevant lease a notice stating—
 - (a) that the Minister proposes to cancel the arrangement; and
 - (b) reasons for the proposed cancellation; and
 - (c) that the holder may lodge submissions at the following office within the stated period about the proposed cancellation or the likely impact of the cancellation on the relevant leases—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) Before cancelling the arrangement, the following must be considered—
 - (a) any submissions lodged by the holder within the stated period;
 - (b) the likely impact of the cancellation on the relevant leases;
 - (c) the public interest.
- (4) If it is decided to cancel the arrangement, each of the holders must be given an information notice about the decision.
- (5) The cancellation takes effect on the end of the appeal period for the decision to cancel, or if a later day of effect is stated in the information notice, on that day.¹¹⁸
- (6) When the decision takes effect, the arrangement and the Minister's approval of it cease to have effect.

118 For the right of appeal and the appeal period, see sections 823 (Who may appeal or apply for external review) and 824 (Period to appeal). See also section 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

243 Effect of cancellation

- (1) The cancellation of a former coordination arrangement does not affect any relevant lease.
- (2) Any sublease of a petroleum lease or a 1923 Act lease provided for under the arrangement is cancelled.¹¹⁹

Part 10 General provisions for petroleum wells, water supply bores and water observation bores**Division 1 Restrictions on drilling****281 Requirements for drilling petroleum well**

- (1) A person drilling a petroleum well must comply with any requirements prescribed under a regulation that apply to the drilling of the well.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) The requirements may include provisions to prevent the drilling adversely affecting the carrying out of safe and efficient mining or future mining of coal under the Mineral Resources Act.

282 Restriction on who may drill water observation bore or water supply bore

A person must not drill a water observation bore or water supply bore unless—

- (a) the person is a licensed water bore driller; or

¹¹⁹ For the recording of cancellation, see section 565 (Keeping of register).

(b) the Water Act, section 816(2)(a) or (c) applies.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

Division 2 Converting petroleum well to water supply bore

283 Restrictions on making conversion

A petroleum tenure holder may convert a petroleum well in the area of the tenure to a water supply bore only if—

- (a) the well has been modified for the purpose of taking water; and
- (b) the modification was carried out by a licensed water bore driller.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

284 Notice of conversion

If a petroleum tenure holder converts a petroleum well to a water supply bore, the holder must, within 10 business days after the conversion, lodge a notice at the following office stating the information prescribed under a regulation—

- (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
- (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

Division 3 Transfers of petroleum wells, water observation bores and water supply bores

Subdivision 1 General provisions

285 Operation of div 3

- (1) This division permits, in particular circumstances, the transfer of the following in relation to a petroleum well, water observation bore or water supply bore—
 - (a) the control of, and responsibility for, the well or bore;
 - (b) the ownership of any works constructed in connection with the well or bore.
- (2) In this division, a *transfer* of a petroleum well, water observation bore or water supply bore is a reference to a transfer in relation to the well or bore mentioned in subsection (1).¹²⁰

286 Transfer only permitted under div 3

A purported transfer of a petroleum well, water observation bore or water supply bore is of no effect unless—

- (a) the transfer is permitted under this division; and
- (b) the requirements under this subdivision for making the transfer have been complied with.

287 Effect of transfer

- (1) If a petroleum well, water observation bore or water supply bore is transferred under this division, any obligation the transferor had under this Act or another law in relation to the well or bore ceases.

¹²⁰ For the ownership of works mentioned in subsection (1)(b) generally, see section 542 (Ownership of equipment and improvements).

- (2) However, if the transferor is someone other than the State, subsection (1) does not apply to the Environmental Protection Act.¹²¹

Subdivision 2 Permitted transfers

288 Transfer of water observation bore or water supply bore to landowner

- (1) A petroleum tenure holder may, by complying with the requirements under subsection (3), transfer a water observation bore or water supply bore in the area of the tenure to the landowner.
- (2) A water monitoring authority holder may, by complying with the requirements under subsection (3), transfer a water observation bore in the area of the authority to the landowner.
- (3) For subsections (1) and (2), the requirements are that each of the following have been lodged at the relevant office—
- (a) a notice in the approved form;
 - (b) the transfer fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (4) The approved form must require the signed consent of the landowner to the transfer.
- (5) In this section—

construction, for a water supply bore, includes any modification under section 283.

landowner means the owner of the land on which the bore is located.

relevant office means—

- (a) the office of the department for lodging documents mentioned in subsection (3), as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or

121 For transfers by the State, see section 294 (Responsibility for well or bore after decommissioning).

- (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

289 Transfer of petroleum well to holder of geothermal exploration permit or mining tenement

A petroleum tenure holder may transfer a petroleum well in the area of the tenure to the holder of a geothermal exploration permit or a mining tenement if—

- (a) the well is in the area of the permit or tenement; and
- (b) a notice in the approved form and the transfer fee prescribed under a regulation have been lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.

290 Transfer of water observation bore to petroleum tenure or water monitoring authority holder

A petroleum tenure holder or water monitoring authority holder may transfer a water observation bore in the area of the tenure or authority to the holder of another petroleum tenure or water monitoring authority if—

- (a) the bore is in the area of the other tenure or authority; and
- (b) a notice in the approved form and the transfer fee prescribed under a regulation have been lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the application, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.

Subdivision 3 Notice of transfer

291 Notice of transfer to Water Act regulator or Mineral Resources Act chief executive

- (1) If a transfer is made under section 288, the chief executive must give the Water Act regulator notice of the transfer.
- (2) If a transfer is made under section 289, the chief executive must give the chief executive that administers the Mineral Resources Act notice of the transfer.
- (3) A failure to comply with subsection (1) or (2) does not invalidate or otherwise affect the transfer.

Division 4 Decommissioning of petroleum wells, water observation bores and water supply bores

292 Obligation to decommission

- (1) This section applies to a person (the *responsible person*) who holds a petroleum tenure on which there is a well, water observation bore or water supply bore drilled by or for the tenure holder or that has been transferred to the tenure holder, unless the petroleum well or bore has, under division 3, been transferred to someone else.
- (2) The responsible person must ensure the well or bore is decommissioned from use under this Act before—
 - (a) the tenure or authority ends; or
 - (b) the land on which the well or bore is located ceases to be in the area of the tenure or authority.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (3) However, subsection (2) does not apply—
 - (a) for land that, under section 101(1), ceases to be in the area of an authority to prospect; or
 - (b) if the tenure or authority ends because it is divided under chapter 2; or

- (c) for a petroleum well—
 - (i) if a GHG tenure is granted; and
 - (ii) the GHG tenure's area includes the well; and
 - (iii) the petroleum tenure holder and the GHG tenure holder have agreed in writing that the GHG tenure holder is to assume responsibility for the well; and
 - (iv) a copy of the agreement has been given to the relevant departmental office.
- (4) For subsection (2), the well or bore is decommissioned from use under this Act only if—
 - (a) it has been plugged and abandoned in the way prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (b) the responsible person has lodged a notice for the well or bore about the decommissioning.¹²²
- (5) The notice must be—
 - (a) in the approved form; and
 - (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive.

293 Right of entry to facilitate decommissioning

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a responsible person under section 292 has not carried out decommissioning on land as required under that section; and
 - (b) the relevant petroleum tenure or water monitoring authority has ended or the land on which the well or

¹²² See also section 580 (Power of authorised person to ensure compliance).

- bore is located is no longer in the area of the tenure or authority.
- (2) The responsible person may enter the following land to carry out the decommissioning—
 - (a) land (the *primary land*) on which the decommissioning must be, or was required to be, carried out;
 - (b) any other land (the *access land*) it is reasonably necessary to cross for access to the primary land.
 - (3) Chapter 5, parts 2, 3 and 5, apply to the responsible person, in the following way—
 - (a) if the tenure or authority has ended, as if—
 - (i) it were still in force; and
 - (ii) the person is its holder;
 - (b) as if the primary land and access land is in the area of the tenure or authority;
 - (c) as if the decommissioning is an authorised activity for the tenure or authority.

294 Responsibility for well or bore after decommissioning

- (1) This section applies if a petroleum tenure holder or water monitoring authority holder has, under section 292,¹²³ decommissioned a petroleum well, water observation bore or water supply bore.
- (2) Despite the decommissioning, the holder continues to be responsible under this Act for the well or bore until the earlier of the following times (the *relevant time*)—
 - (a) when the petroleum tenure ends;
 - (b) when the land on which the well or bore is located ceased to be in the area of the tenure.
- (3) At the relevant time the well or bore is taken to have been transferred to the State.

¹²³ For ownership before decommissioning, see section 542 (Ownership of equipment and improvements).

- (4) Subsection (3) applies despite—
 - (a) the exploration bore being on or part of land owned by someone else; or
 - (b) the sale or other disposal of the land.
- (5) After the relevant time, the State may transfer the well or bore.
- (6) However—
 - (a) the transfer from the State can only be to—
 - (i) the owner of the land on which the well or bore is located; or
 - (ii) the holder of a geothermal exploration permit or mining tenement the area of which includes that land; and
 - (b) the transfer from the State and the use of the well or bore by the transferee is subject to this Act and any other relevant Act or law.

Chapter 3 Provisions for coal seam gas

Part 1 Preliminary

Division 1 Introduction

295 Main purposes of ch 3

The main purposes of this chapter are in conjunction with the Mineral Resources Act, part 7AA, and the 1923 Act, part 6F, to—

- (a) clarify rights to explore for and produce coal seam gas; and

- (b) address issues arising for coal seam gas exploration and production, and, in particular, issues arising when a petroleum tenure and a coal or oil shale mining tenement are granted over the same area; and
- (c) ensure petroleum exploration and production is—
 - (i) carried out safely; and
 - (ii) does not compromise the safe and efficient mining of coal seams or oil shale; and
- (d) provide security of tenure to protect existing operations and investments relating to coal, oil shale and petroleum;¹²⁴ and
- (e) provide certainty of tenure for future investments relating to coal, oil shale and petroleum; and
- (f) optimise the development and use of the State's coal, oil shale and petroleum resources to maximise the benefit for all Queenslanders; and
- (g) ensure petroleum exploration and production does not compromise the ability to mine coal seams economically in the future; and
- (h) ensure, if it is commercially and technically feasible, the grant of petroleum leases that may affect coal or oil shale mining, or proposed coal or oil shale mining, optimises the commercial use of coal, oil shale and petroleum resources in a safe and efficient way.

296 How main purposes are achieved

- (1) The main purposes of this chapter are achieved by—
 - (a) providing for processes to decide the priority of overlapping petroleum lease applications and coal or oil shale mining tenement applications and potential applications; and
 - (b) facilitating the obtaining of a petroleum lease over land in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease; and

¹²⁴ For existing operations, see also the Mineral Resources Act, part 19, division 6 (Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004).

- (c) imposing additional requirements for deciding the overlapping applications; and
 - (d) imposing restrictions on the authorised activities for particular petroleum tenures; and
 - (e) imposing additional—
 - (i) requirements relating to development plans for petroleum exploration or production under a petroleum lease; and
 - (ii) conditions on authorities to prospect and petroleum leases; and
 - (f) granting, under part 2, division 1 and part 3, division 3, the following the right to apply for a petroleum lease—
 - (i) particular coal or oil shale mining tenement holders;
 - (ii) others who apply jointly with the holders.
- (2) The following are also relevant to the achievement of the purposes—
- (a) sections 10, 800(2) and 802(1)(c);
 - (b) chapter 2, part 8;
 - (c) chapter 9;
 - (d) the Mineral Resources Act, sections 3A, and 6, part 7AA and part 19, division 6.

297 Relationship with chs 2 and 5 and ch 15, pt 3

- (1) Requirements and restrictions under this chapter apply as well as any relevant requirements under chapters 2 or 5 or chapter 15, part 3.
- (2) If this chapter imposes a requirement for or a restriction on the granting, renewal, division or transfer of a petroleum tenure, the tenure can not be granted, renewed, divided or transferred if the restriction applies or if the requirement has not been complied with.
- (3) If this chapter imposes a requirement for or a restriction on the carrying out of an authorised activity for a petroleum tenure or

data acquisition authority, despite chapter 2, the activity is not an authorised activity for the tenure while the restriction applies or if the requirement has not been complied with.

- (4) If a provision of this chapter conflicts with a provision of chapter 2 or 5 or chapter 15, part 3, the provision of this chapter prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

298 Description of petroleum leases for ch 3 and ch 15, pt 3

Despite section 29 and any provision of chapter 3 or chapter 15, part 3, a petroleum lease applied for or granted under this chapter may be described in metes and bounds.

Division 2 Definitions for chapter 3

299 What is *coal seam gas* and *incidental coal seam gas*

- (1) *Coal seam gas* is petroleum (in any state) occurring naturally in association with coal or oil shale, or in strata associated with coal or oil shale mining.
- (2) *Incidental coal seam gas* is incidental coal seam gas as defined under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CM(2).

300 What is *oil shale*

Oil shale is any shale or other rock (other than coal) from which a gasification or retorting product may be extracted or produced.

301 What is a *coal exploration tenement* and a *coal mining lease*

- (1) A *coal exploration tenement* is an exploration permit or mineral development licence under the Mineral Resources Act granted for coal.
- (2) A *coal mining lease* is—
- (a) a mining lease for coal; or

- (b) a special coal mining lease granted under any of the following Acts, an agreement provided for under any of the Acts or any amendment of an agreement provided for under any of the Acts—
 - (i) the *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968*;
 - (ii) the *Thiess Peabody Mitsui Coal Pty. Ltd. Agreements Acts 1962 to 1965*; or
 - (c) a specific purpose mining lease for a purpose associated with, arising from or promoting the activity of coal mining, whether or not it is also granted for a purpose other than coal mining.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2)(a) apply whether or not the lease, permit or licence is also granted for another mineral.

302 **What is an *oil shale exploration tenement* and an *oil shale mining lease***

- (1) An *oil shale exploration tenement* is an exploration permit or mineral development licence granted for oil shale.
- (2) An *oil shale mining lease* is—
- (a) a mining lease for oil shale; or
 - (b) a specific purpose mining lease for a purpose associated with, arising from or promoting the activity of oil shale mining, whether or not it is also granted for a purpose other than oil shale mining.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2)(a) apply whether or not the lease, permit or licence is also granted for another mineral.

303 **What is a *coal or oil shale mining tenement***

A *coal or oil shale mining tenement* is—

- (a) a coal exploration tenement; or
- (b) an oil shale exploration tenement; or
- (c) a coal or oil shale mining lease.

Part 2 Obtaining petroleum lease over land in area of coal or oil shale exploration tenement

Division 1 Obtaining petroleum lease other than by or jointly with, or with the consent of, coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

304 Application of div 1

- (1) This division applies if—
 - (a) land is in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement; and
 - (b) a person, who, under section 117, may make an ATP-related application for all or part of the land wishes to make that application.
- (2) However, this division does not apply if—
 - (a) the person is the tenement holder; or
 - (b) if the application is to be made jointly with the tenement holder; or
 - (c) the application is made with the tenement holder's written consent; or
 - (d) the coal or oil shale exploration tenement is a mineral (f) pilot tenure.¹²⁵

125 For the circumstances mentioned in subsection (2), see division 2 (Petroleum lease application by or jointly with, or with the consent of, coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder).

Subdivision 2 Provisions for making petroleum lease application

305 Additional requirements for making application

- (1) The ATP-related application must include the following—
 - (a) a statement (a *CSG statement*) that complies with section 306;
 - (b) other information that addresses the matters mentioned in subsection (2) (the *CSG assessment criteria*), other than the matter mentioned in subsection (2)(e)(iii).
- (2) The CSG assessment criteria are—
 - (a) the requirements of chapter 9; and
 - (b) the initial development plan requirements; and
 - (c) the additional requirements under part 6 for proposed initial development plans; and
 - (d) the legitimate business interests of the applicant and the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder (the *parties*); and

Examples of a party's legitimate business interests—

 - contractual obligations
 - the effect on, and use of, existing infrastructure or mining or production facilities
 - exploration expenditure on relevant overlapping tenures
 - (e) the effect of the proposed petroleum lease on the future development of coal or oil shale resources from the land, including for example, each of the following—
 - (i) the proposed timing and rate of petroleum production and the development of coal or oil shale resources from the land;
 - (ii) the potential for the parties to make a coordination arrangement about—
 - (A) petroleum production under the proposed petroleum lease; and

- (B) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under any future mining lease over the land;
 - (iii) the attempts required of the applicant under section 310(1)(b) and any changes of the type mentioned in section 310(1)(c);
 - (iv) the economic and technical viability of the concurrent or coordinated petroleum production and the development of any coal or oil shale resources in the land;
 - (v) the extent, nature and value of petroleum production and the development of any coal or oil shale resources in the land; and
 - (f) the public interest in petroleum production from, and the development of any coal or oil shale resources in, the land, having regard to the public interest.
- (3) The proposed development plan included in the application must also comply with part 6.

306 Content requirements for CSG statement

- (1) A CSG statement must—
- (a) assess—
 - (i) the likely effect of proposed petroleum production on the future development of coal or oil shale resources from the land; and
 - (ii) the technical and commercial feasibility of coordinated petroleum production and coal or oil shale mining from the land; and
 - (b) include a proposed safety management plan for all operating plant, or proposed operating plant, for proposed petroleum production under the lease that may affect possible future safe and efficient mining under the coal or oil shale mining lease.
- (2) The proposed safety management plan must—
- (a) for activities of the plant that may affect future safe and efficient mining of coal, comply with the requirements

under sections 388 and 675 for a safety management plan; and

- (b) include proposals for the minimisation of potential adverse effects on possible future safe and efficient mining under a future mining lease.¹²⁶

Subdivision 3 Provisions for separate applications in particular circumstances

307 Requirement for separate applications relating to exploration tenement and mining lease not held by same person

- (1) This section applies if a person to whom this division applies wishes to make an application to which this division applies—
- (a) for land in the area of each of the following—
- (i) the coal or oil shale exploration tenement (the *exploration tenement part*);
- (ii) a coal or oil shale mining lease (the *mining lease part*); and
- (b) the exploration tenement and the mining lease are not held by the same person.¹²⁷
- (2) The person must make separate ATP-related applications for the exploration tenement part and the mining lease part.
- (3) The application for the exploration tenement part must be decided under this division.
- (4) The application for the mining lease part must be decided under part 3.

308 Requirement for separate application for other land

- (1) This section applies if—

¹²⁶ See also section 385 (Grant of petroleum lease does not affect obligation to make plan).

¹²⁷ If the coal or oil shale exploration tenement and the coal or oil shale mining lease are held by the same person, see section 344(3) (Application of div 2).

- (a) a person to whom this division applies wishes to make an application to which this division applies; and
 - (b) the proposed application includes land (the *other part*) not in the area of a coal or oil shale mining tenement.
- (2) The person must lodge a separate ATP-related application for the other part.
- (3) The separate application must be decided under chapter 2.

Subdivision 4 Obligations of applicant and coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder

310 Applicant's obligations

- (1) The applicant must—
- (a) within 10 business days after making the ATP-related application, give the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder a copy of the application, other than any part of the application that relates to the capability criteria; and
 - (b) use reasonable attempts to—
 - (i) consult with the tenement holder about the applicant's proposed development plan and proposed safety management plan; and
 - (ii) make an appropriate arrangement with the tenement holder about advanced testing carried out, or proposed to be carried out, by the tenement holder (a *testing arrangement*);¹²⁸ and
- Example of advanced testing—*
- bulk sampling
- (c) change the proposed plans to give effect to any reasonable proposal by the tenement holder that will optimise the safe and efficient production of—

128 See also part 8 (Confidentiality of information).

- (i) petroleum under the proposed petroleum lease; and
 - (ii) coal or oil shale under any future mining lease over the land; and
- (d) within 4 months after the making of the application, lodge a notice stating each of the following—
- (i) the details of the consultation;
 - (ii) the results of the consultation;
 - (iii) any comments the applicant wishes to make about any submissions lodged by the tenement holder, under section 314;
 - (iv) any changes to the proposed development plan or proposed safety management plan;
 - (v) if a testing arrangement has been made—details of the arrangement;
 - (vi) if a testing arrangement has not been made—details of the attempts made to make a testing arrangement;
 - (vii) the applicant’s assessment of the potential for the applicant and the tenement holder to make a coordination arrangement about—
 - (A) petroleum production under the proposed petroleum lease; and
 - (B) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under any future mining lease over the land.
- (2) However, the obligations under subsection (1)(b)(ii) and (c) apply only to the extent the provisions or arrangement are commercially and technically feasible for the applicant.
- (3) For subsection (1)(b)(ii), if the exploration tenement is an exploration permit, it is appropriate for the agreement to give the permit holder the right to carry out advanced testing to satisfy the Minister under the Mineral Resources Act, section 186(1)(b).¹²⁹

129 See the Mineral Resources Act, section 186(1)(b) (Minister may grant or refuse application).

- (4) However, subsection (3) does not require the applicant to agree to testing having a duration of more than 12 months.
- (5) A notice under subsection (1)(d) must be lodged at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

311 Minister may require further negotiation

- (1) The Minister may, after receiving the notice under section 310(1)(d), require the applicant to conduct negotiations with the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder with a view to—
 - (a) making a testing arrangement mentioned in section 310(1)(b)(ii); or
 - (b) making changes of a type mentioned in section 310(1)(c).
- (2) The applicant must use all reasonable attempts to comply with the requirement.

312 Consequence of applicant not complying with obligations or requirement

If the Minister is reasonably satisfied the applicant has not complied with an obligation under section 310 or 311, the ATP-related application may be refused.¹³⁰

313 Obligations of coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder

The coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder must—

- (a) within 20 business days after receiving a copy of the application, give the applicant basic information the tenement holder has about the following that the

¹³⁰ See also part 8 (Confidentiality of information).

applicant may reasonably need to comply with sections 305, 306 and 310—

- (i) the type of exploration activities carried out, or proposed to be carried out under the tenement;
 - (ii) coal or oil shale resources in the land; and
- (b) after receiving a copy of the ATP-related application, make reasonable attempts to reach an agreement with the applicant about the matters mentioned in section 310(1)(b) that provides the best resource use outcome without significantly affecting the parties' rights or interests.

314 Submissions by coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder

- (1) The coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder may lodge submissions about the ATP-related application at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (2) However, the submissions may be lodged only within 3 months after the holder is, under section 310(1)(a), given a copy of the application (the *submission period*).
- (3) The submissions may—
 - (a) state that the holder does not object to the granting of the proposed petroleum lease; and
 - (b) state that the holder does not wish any preference for the future development of coal or oil shale from the land (*coal or oil shale development preference*); and
 - (c) include information about all or any of the following—
 - (i) exploration carried out under the tenement;
 - (ii) the results of the exploration;
 - (iii) the prospects for future coal or oil shale mining or incidental coal seam gas mining from the land; and

- (d) include a proposal by the tenement holder for the development of coal or oil shale in the land; and
 - (e) include information relevant to the CSG assessment criteria; and
 - (f) include reasonable provisions for the safety management plan for petroleum production under the petroleum lease.¹³¹
- (4) The holder must give the applicant a copy of the submissions.
 - (5) In deciding the ATP-related application, regard must be had to the submissions.

Subdivision 5 Priority for earlier coal or oil shale mining lease application or proposed application

315 Earlier coal or oil shale mining lease application

- (1) The ATP-related application must not be decided if—
 - (a) before the making of the ATP-related application, a coal or oil shale mining lease application was made for the land; and
 - (b) the mining lease application complies with the Mineral Resources Act, sections 245 and 246, and any relevant provision of part 7AA of that Act; and
 - (c) the mining lease application has not been decided.
- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply if—
 - (a) the ATP-related application was made in response to an invitation in a notice given under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318BG and the application was made within 6 months after the giving of the notice; or

131 See also section 386 (Requirements for consultation with particular coal or oil shale mining tenement holders).

- (b) the coal or oil shale mining lease applicant has given written consent to the petroleum lease application.¹³²

316 Proposed coal or oil shale mining lease for which EIS approval given

- (1) The ATP-related application must not be decided if—
 - (a) before the making of the ATP-related application, an approval under the Environmental Protection Act, chapter 3, part 2, was granted for the voluntary preparation of an EIS for a project that is, or includes, a proposed coal or oil shale mining lease mining lease for the land; and
 - (b) the proponent for the EIS—
 - (i) is, or includes, the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder; or
 - (ii) is someone else who has the tenement holder's consent.
- (2) However, subsection (1) ceases to apply if—
 - (a) the proponent of the EIS does not make a coal or oil shale mining lease application for the land within 1 year after the granting of the approval; or
 - (b) a coal or oil shale mining lease application is made for the land within the period mentioned in paragraph (a) and—
 - (i) it does not comply with the Mineral Resources Act, sections 245 and 246, and any relevant provision of part 7AA of that Act; or
 - (ii) it is decided; or
 - (c) the proponent for the EIS has given written consent to the petroleum lease application.

132 See however the Mineral Resources Act, part 7AA, division 4 (Coal mining lease and oil shale mining lease applications in response to Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act preference decision).

See also the Mineral Resources Act, section 318AY (Earlier petroleum lease application).

317 Proposed mining lease declared a significant project

- (1) The ATP-related application must not be decided if—
 - (a) before the making of the ATP-related application, a significant project is declared for a proposed coal or oil shale mining lease for the land; and
 - (b) the proponent for the significant project—
 - (i) is, or includes, the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder; or
 - (ii) is someone else who has the tenement holder's consent.
- (2) However, subsection (1) ceases to apply if—
 - (a) the proponent of the significant project does not make a coal or oil shale mining lease application for the land within 1 year after the making of the declaration; or
 - (b) a coal or oil shale mining lease application is made for the land within the period mentioned in paragraph (a) and—
 - (i) it does not comply with the Mineral Resources Act, sections 245 and 246, and any relevant provision of part 7AA of that Act; or
 - (ii) it is decided.
 - (c) the proponent of the significant project has given written consent to the mining lease application.

Subdivision 6 Ministerial decision about whether to give any preference to development of coal or oil shale resources**318 When preference decision is required**

- (1) This subdivision applies for the application only if the Minister is satisfied of each of the following—
 - (a) there is a resource or reserve (the *deposit*) of coal or oil shale in the land;

- (b) the deposit has been identified under the relevant code;
 - (c) there is the level of knowledge about the deposit, as prescribed under a regulation;
 - (d) the location, quantity, quality, geological characteristics and continuity of the deposit are known, or have been estimated or interpreted, from specific geological evidence and knowledge;
 - (e) there are reasonable prospects for the eventual economic mining of the deposit.
- (2) However, this subdivision does not apply if—
- (a) the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder has not complied with section 313(a); or
 - (b) the tenement holder has, under section 314, lodged a submission stating that the holder does not wish any coal or oil shale development preference for the land; or
 - (c) the tenement holder has not lodged any submission under section 314 within the submission period.
- (3) If the Minister decides that the Minister is not satisfied as mentioned in subsection (1), the tenement holder must be given notice of the decision.
- (4) In this section—
- relevant code*** means any of the following—
- (a) the document called ‘Australasian Code for Reporting of Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves (The JORC Code)’ and incorporated guidelines, published by the Joint Ore Reserves Committee of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Australian Institute of Geoscientists and Minerals Council of Australia (***JORC***),¹³³ as amended and published from time to time;
 - (b) another document (however called) published by JORC that amends or replaces the code mentioned in paragraph (a);

133 A copy of the document is available on the internet at <www.jorc.org>.

- (c) if a document mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) stops being published—another similar document prescribed under a regulation.

Notes—

- 1 If the Minister is not satisfied as mentioned in subsection (1), the application can be decided under chapter 2.
- 2 If this subdivision does not apply because of subsection (2), the application can be decided under chapter 2 and subdivision 8.

319 Decision about whether to give any preference to development of coal or oil shale

- (1) Subject to section 320, the Minister must decide whether to—
 - (a) grant the petroleum lease application; or
 - (b) give any coal or oil shale development preference for the land, in whole or part.
- (2) The decision under subsection (1) is the *preference decision*.
- (3) In making the preference decision the CSG assessment criteria must be considered.
- (4) If, under the Mineral Resources Act, part 7AA, division 2, subdivision 6, petroleum development preference has been given for the land, the preference decision is taken to be not to give coal or oil shale development preference for any of the land.

320 Reference to Land Court before making preference decision

- (1) Before making the preference decision—
 - (a) the chief executive must refer the application to the Land Court for it to make recommendations to the Minister about what the preference decision should be; and
 - (b) the Minister must consider the recommendations.
- (2) The referral must be made by filing a notice in the approved form with the registrar of the Land Court.

- (3) The referral starts a proceeding before the Land Court for it to make the recommendations.
- (4) The parties to the proceeding are the applicant and the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder.
- (5) In making the recommendations—
 - (a) the CSG assessment criteria must be considered; and
 - (b) section 321 applies as if a reference in the section—
 - (i) to the Minister were a reference to the Land Court; and
 - (ii) to coal or oil shale development preference were a reference to recommending coal or oil shale development preference.
- (6) The recommendations may also include recommendations about the conditions and term of the petroleum lease.

321 Restrictions on giving preference

- (1) Coal or oil shale development preference, in whole or part, must not be given unless this section has been complied with.
- (2) Coal or oil shale development preference may be given only if the Minister is satisfied of each of the following—
 - (a) on the basis of the submissions and the results of consultation lodged under sections 310 and 314, it is either not commercially or technically feasible or it is unlikely that the applicant and the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder are able to make a future coordination arrangement about—
 - (i) petroleum production under the proposed petroleum lease; and
 - (ii) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under any future mining lease for the land;
 - (b) that, having regard to the public interest, the public interest in the following would be best served by not granting a petroleum lease to the petroleum lease applicant first—

- (i) petroleum production;
- (ii) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining;
- (c) if the coal or oil shale is a brownfield coal or oil shale resource—
 - (i) it is critical to the continuance of an existing mining operation or the efficient use of infrastructure related to the operation; and
 - (ii) the applicant’s proposed development plan is incompatible with the future development of the resource;
- (d) if the coal or oil shale is a greenfield coal or oil shale resource—
 - (i) it is commercially viable; and
 - (ii) coal or oil shale mining will, if a mining lease is granted to the tenement holder, start within 2 years after the grant of the lease.
- (3) In this section—

brownfield coal or oil shale resource means coal or oil shale associated with, or adjacent to, an existing mining operation under the Mineral Resources Act.

greenfield coal or oil shale resource means coal or oil shale that is not associated with, or adjacent to, an existing mining operation under the Mineral Resources Act.

Subdivision 7 Process if preference decision is to give any preference to development of coal or oil shale resources

322 Application of sdiv 7

This subdivision applies only if, under section 318, a preference decision is required and that decision was to give coal or oil shale development preference for the whole or part of the land.

323 Notice to applicant and coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder

- (1) The chief executive must give the applicant and the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder notice of the preference decision.
- (2) The notice must invite the tenement holder to, within 6 months after the giving of the notice (the *mining lease application period*), apply for a mining lease for—
 - (a) if the preference is for all of the land—all of the land; or
 - (b) if the preference is for part of the land—that part.

324 Mining lease application for all of the land

- (1) This section applies if the preference is for all of the land and, within the mining lease application period, the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder applies for a mining lease for all of the land.
- (2) A further step can not be taken to decide the ATP-related application until after the mining lease application has been decided.¹³⁴
- (3) If the decision on the mining lease application is to grant a mining lease for all of the land, the ATP-related application is taken to have lapsed, unless the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder has consented in writing to the application.

325 Mining lease application for part of the land

- (1) This section applies if the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder applies for a mining lease for part of the land within the mining lease application period.
- (2) The person who made the ATP-related application may amend it so that a petroleum lease is only sought for all or part of the rest of the land.

¹³⁴ See however the Mineral Resources Act, part 7AA, division 4 (Coal mining lease and oil shale mining lease applications in response to Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act preference decision).

- (3) Unless the amendment is made, a further step can not be taken to decide the ATP-related application until after the mining lease application has been decided.
- (4) If—
- (a) the amendment has not been made; and
 - (b) the decision on the mining lease application is to grant a mining lease for part of the land;
- the person who made the ATP-related application may amend it so that a petroleum lease is only sought for all or part of the rest of the land.¹³⁵

326 No mining lease application

If the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder does not apply for a mining lease for any of the land within the mining lease application period, the ATP-related application may be decided.

Subdivision 8 Deciding petroleum lease

327 Application of sdiv 8

This subdivision applies if—

- (a) the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder has not complied with section 313(a); or
- (b) the tenement holder has, under section 314, lodged a submission stating that the holder does not wish any coal or oil shale development preference for the land; or
- (c) the tenement holder has not lodged any submission under section 314 within the submission period; or
- (d) under section 318, a preference decision is required and—

¹³⁵ If the petroleum lease application is not amended, see section 350 (Additional requirements for grant).

- (i) the preference decision was not to give coal or oil shale development preference for any of the land; or
- (ii) the preference decision was to give coal or oil shale development preference for the whole or part of the land and, after subdivision 7 is complied with, the Minister decides to grant a petroleum lease for the land.

328 Additional criteria for deciding provisions of petroleum lease

- (1) In deciding the provisions of the petroleum lease the following must also be considered—
 - (a) the CSG assessment criteria;
 - (b) the affect of the petroleum lease on safe and efficient mining of coal or oil shale under any adjacent lease;
 - (c) the affect on safe and efficient mining of coal or oil shale under any future coal or oil shale mining lease that arises from the coal or oil shale exploration tenement.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit other matters that must be considered under chapter 2.¹³⁶

329 Power to impose relinquishment condition

- (1) In deciding the provisions of the petroleum lease, a condition may be imposed that its holder is required, by a notice lodged at the following office, to relinquish a stated part or percentage of its area at stated times or intervals—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging relinquishment notices, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.¹³⁷

¹³⁶ See sections 104 to 123 and 133 and 134.

¹³⁷ See however section 368 (Cessation of relinquishment condition for area not overlapping with coal or oil shale exploration tenement).

- (2) A condition mentioned in subsection (1) is a ***relinquishment condition***.¹³⁸
- (3) This section does not limit any power under chapter 2 to impose conditions on the petroleum lease.
- (4) A relinquishment under a relinquishment condition takes effect on the day after the notice is lodged.

330 Publication of outcome of application

- (1) After the Minister decides whether to grant the petroleum lease, the chief executive must publish a notice about the outcome of the application in the gazette or another publication the Minister considers appropriate.
- (2) The notice must state—
 - (a) whether the Minister decided to grant or not to grant the petroleum lease; and
 - (b) if the decision was to grant—any conditions of the petroleum lease other than the mandatory conditions; and
 - (c) if, under section 318, a preference decision was required and that decision was to give coal or oil shale development preference for the whole or part of the land—the decision, and the reasons for it.
- (3) However, if the chief executive considers that information in any condition is commercial-in-confidence, the chief executive may, instead of publishing the condition, publish a statement about the intent of the condition.

138 See also section 367 (Requirement for giving of copy of relinquishment report).

Division 2 Petroleum lease application by or jointly with, or with the consent of, coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder

331 Application of div 2

- (1) This division applies if—
 - (a) land is in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement; and
 - (b) a person who, under section 117, may make an ATP-related application for all or part of the land wishes to make that application; and
 - (c) the tenement holder has consented to the making of the application.
- (2) This division also applies if—
 - (a) land is in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement; and
 - (b) a person as follows wishes to apply for a petroleum lease for all or part of the land—
 - (i) the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder;
 - (ii) a person who wishes to make the application jointly with the holder; and
 - (c) a person mentioned in paragraph (b) has made a coal mining lease application or oil shale mining lease application for the land and the application is not for a specific purpose mining lease; and
 - (d) the purpose of the proposed petroleum lease application is to allow the use of incidental coal seam gas for a purpose other than mining under the proposed mining lease.¹³⁹

139 See the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CN (Use that may be made under mining lease of incidental coal seam gas).

- (3) However, this division does not apply if land is in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement that is a mineral (f) pilot tenure.

332 Right to apply for petroleum lease

- (1) The person may apply for a petroleum lease for all or part of the land.
- (2) The area of the proposed petroleum lease need not comply with section 168(4) to (8).

333 Requirements for making application

- (1) The petroleum lease application must—
- (a) comply with the requirements under section 118 for making an ATP-related application; and
 - (b) include—
 - (i) a CSG statement;¹⁴⁰ and
 - (ii) other information that addresses the CSG assessment criteria.
- (2) The proposed initial development plan required under section 118 must, as well as complying with the initial development plan requirements, also comply with part 6, division 1.

334 No calls for tenders after application made

A call for tenders for a petroleum lease can not be made for the land if the petroleum lease application has not been decided.

335 Requirement for separate applications relating to exploration tenement and mining lease not held by same person

- (1) This section applies if—

¹⁴⁰ See section 306 (Content requirements for CSG statement).

- (a) a person to whom this division applies wishes to make an application to which this division applies for land in the area of each of the following—
 - (i) the coal or oil shale exploration tenement (the *exploration tenement part*);
 - (ii) a coal or oil shale mining lease (the *mining lease part*); and
 - (b) the exploration tenement and the mining lease are not held by the same person.¹⁴¹
- (2) The person must make separate ATP-related applications for the exploration tenement part and the mining lease part.
 - (3) The application for the exploration tenement part must be decided under this division.
 - (4) The application for the mining lease part must be decided under part 3.

336 Requirement for separate application for other land

- (1) This section applies if a person to whom this division applies wishes to make an application to which this division applies and the proposed application includes land (the *other part*) not in the area of a coal or oil shale mining tenement.
- (2) The person must make a separate ATP-related application for the other part.
- (3) The separate application must be decided under chapter 2.

338 Priority for earlier mining lease application or proposed application

Division 1, subdivision 5, applies for the petroleum lease application.

339 Priority for deciding earlier petroleum lease application

If, before the making of the petroleum lease application—

¹⁴¹ If the coal or oil shale exploration tenement and the coal or oil shale mining lease are held by the same person, see section 344(3) (Application of div 2).

- (a) someone else has applied for a petroleum lease for the whole or part of the proposed area of the petroleum lease; and
 - (b) the other application complies with section 305;
- the Minister must decide the other application first unless the petroleum lease applicant agrees otherwise.

340 Right to grant if particular requirements met

- (1) This section applies subject to section 339.
- (2) If the application is an ATP-related application, the Minister must grant the petroleum lease if—
 - (a) the applicant is an eligible person; and
 - (b) the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder has consented to the grant; and
 - (c) the requirements for grant have been complied with.
- (3) If the application is not an ATP-related application, the Minister must grant the petroleum lease if—
 - (a) the applicant is an eligible person; and
 - (b) either—
 - (i) the applicant has been granted a coal or oil shale mining lease over the proposed area of the petroleum lease; or
 - (ii) any preference decision required under the Mineral Resources Act for the coal or oil shale mining lease application¹⁴² has been made and, under section 271 of that Act, a decision has been made to recommend the applicant be granted a coal or oil shale mining lease for the land; and
 - (c) the Minister is satisfied—
 - (i) the requirements for grant, other than the requirement under section 121(1)(c), have been complied with; and

¹⁴² For when a preference decision under the Mineral Resources Act is required, see section 318BA (When preference decision is required) of that Act.

- (ii) the conditions of the coal or oil shale exploration tenement have been substantially complied with.

Note—

If the area of the petroleum lease includes overlapping ATP land, the authority holder's written agreement is needed to carry out any authorised activity under the lease other than an activity related to incidental coal seam gas. See part 5, division 1.

341 Provisions of petroleum lease

- (1) If the petroleum lease application is granted, section 123 applies as if the application were an ATP-related application.
- (2) In deciding the provisions of the petroleum lease, the following matters must also be considered—
 - (a) the provisions recommended for the relevant mining lease;
 - (b) the development plan for the relevant mining lease;
 - (c) if the area of the petroleum lease will include land (*overlapping ATP land*) in the area of, or excluded land for, an authority to prospect or a 1923 Act ATP held by someone other than the petroleum lease holder—
 - (i) the legitimate business interests, rights and future development proposals of the authority to prospect holder; and
 - (ii) the likelihood of coordinated production of petroleum in relation to the overlapping ATP land being subject to an agreement under section 364(2).
- (3) A relinquishment condition may be imposed.¹⁴³
- (4) Subsection (3) does not limit any power under chapter 2 to impose conditions on the petroleum lease.

¹⁴³ See however section 368 (Cessation of relinquishment condition for area not overlapping with coal or oil shale exploration tenement).

Division 3 Petroleum lease applications in response to Mineral Resources Act preference decision

342 Additional ground for refusing application

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a petroleum lease application is made in response to an invitation given under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318BG; and
 - (b) the application is made within 6 months after the giving of the invitation.¹⁴⁴
- (2) The Minister may decide to refuse the application if satisfied the applicant has not, in a timely manner—
 - (a) taken any step in relation to the application required of the applicant under chapter 2 or this chapter; or
 - (b) satisfied the Minister about a matter that, under chapter 2 or this chapter, is required for the granting of the application.¹⁴⁵
- (3) Subsection (2) does not limit another ground for refusing the application under chapter 2, this chapter or section 843.

144 If the application is not made within the 6 months, see the Mineral Resources Act, section 318BJ (No petroleum lease application).

145 See section 340 (Right to grant if particular requirements met).

Part 3 Obtaining petroleum lease over land in area of coal or oil shale mining lease

Division 1 Exclusion of power to call for tenders

343 Exclusion

The Minister can not make a call for tenders for a petroleum lease for land in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease.

Division 2 Petroleum lease application other than by or jointly with coal or oil shale mining lease holder

344 Application of div 2

- (1) This division applies if a person wishes to make an application for a petroleum lease for all or part of land in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease.
- (2) However, this division does not apply if—
 - (a) the person is the mining lease holder; or
 - (b) the application is to be made jointly with the holder; or
 - (c) the application relates to land in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement that is a mineral (f) pilot tenure.¹⁴⁶
- (3) If—
 - (a) the land is also in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement; and
 - (b) the same person holds the mining lease and the exploration tenement;

¹⁴⁶ See division 3 (Petroleum lease application by or jointly with coal or oil shale mining lease holder).

a reference in this division to the mining lease holder includes a reference to the exploration tenement holder.¹⁴⁷

345 Additional requirements for making application

- (1) The petroleum lease application must—
 - (a) comply with the requirements under section 118 for making an ATP-related application; and
 - (b) include a CSG statement.¹⁴⁸
- (2) The proposed initial development plan required under section 118 must, as well as complying with the initial development plan requirements, also comply with part 6, division 1.

346 Requirement for separate application for other land

- (1) This section applies if a person to whom this division applies wishes to make an application to which this division applies and the proposed application includes land (the *other part*) not in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease.
- (2) The person must make a separate petroleum lease application for the other part.
- (3) The separate application must be decided under chapter 2.

348 Notice to coal or oil shale mining lease holder

The applicant must, within 10 business days after making the application, give the coal or oil shale mining lease holder a copy of the application, other than any part of the application that relates to the capability criteria.¹⁴⁹

147 If the coal or oil shale mining lease and the coal or oil shale exploration tenement are held by different persons, see section 307 (Requirement for separate applications relating to exploration tenement and mining lease not held by same person).

148 See section 306 (Content requirements for CSG statement).

149 See also part 8 (Confidentiality of information).

349 Coal mining lease holder's or oil shale mining lease holder's obligation to negotiate

- (1) The coal or oil shale mining lease holder must, after receiving the copy of the application, make reasonable attempts to reach a coordination arrangement with the applicant about the following matters that provides the best resource use outcome without significantly affecting the parties' rights or interests—
 - (a) petroleum production under the proposed petroleum lease;
 - (b) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under the mining lease.¹⁵⁰
- (2) However, the obligation under subsection (1) applies only to the extent that a coordination arrangement is commercially and technically feasible for the mining lease holder.

350 Additional requirements for grant

- (1) The application may be granted only if—
 - (a) the applicant has negotiated, with the coal or oil shale mining lease holder, a proposed coordination arrangement (a *relevant arrangement*) about the following matters—
 - (i) petroleum production under the proposed petroleum lease;
 - (ii) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas under the mining lease; and
 - (b) the Minister has approved the relevant arrangement; and
 - (c) the applicant has made a safety management plan for all operating plant on, or proposed to be on, the area of the proposed petroleum lease;¹⁵¹ and

150 For the extent to which coal seam gas production is permitted under the coal or oil shale mining lease, see the Mineral Resources Act, part 7AA, division 8, subdivision 1 (Entitlement to coal seam gas).

151 See also section 386 (Requirements for consultation with particular coal or oil shale mining tenement holders).

- (d) the mining lease holder has agreed to the safety management plan and lodged a notice that the holder has agreed to the plan.
- (2) The Minister may decide to refuse the application if—
- (a) the Minister is satisfied the applicant and the mining lease holder have, as required under section 349, made reasonable attempts to reach a relevant arrangement; and
 - (b) either—
 - (i) the mining lease holder has lodged a notice stating there are no reasonable prospects of a relevant arrangement being made; or
 - (ii) a relevant arrangement has not been lodged for approval by the Minister and the Minister considers the applicant and the mining lease holder have had a reasonable opportunity to make a relevant arrangement.
- (3) A notice under this section must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Division 3 Petroleum lease application by or jointly with coal or oil shale mining lease holder

351 Application of div 3

This division applies if a person as follows wishes to apply for a petroleum lease for all or part of the land in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease that is not a specific purpose mining lease—

- (a) the coal or oil shale mining lease holder;
- (b) a person who wishes to make the application jointly with the holder.

352 Right to apply for petroleum lease

- (1) The person may apply for a petroleum lease for all or part of the land.
- (2) The area of the proposed petroleum lease need not comply with section 168(4) to (8).

353 Requirements for making application

- (1) The petroleum lease application must—
 - (a) comply with the requirements under section 118 for making an ATP-related application; and
 - (b) include a CSG statement.¹⁵²
- (2) The proposed initial development plan required under section 118 must, as well as complying with the initial development plan requirements, also comply with part 6, division 1.

354 Requirement for separate application for other land

- (1) This section applies if a person to whom this division applies wishes to make an application to which this division applies and the proposed application includes land (the *other part*) not in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease.
- (2) The person must make a separate petroleum lease application for the other part.
- (3) The separate application must be decided under chapter 2.

356 Right to grant if particular requirements met

The Minister must grant the petroleum lease if—

- (a) the applicant is an eligible person; and
- (b) the Minister is satisfied—
 - (i) the requirements for grant, other than the requirement under section 121(1)(c), have been complied with; and

¹⁵² See section 306 (Content requirements for CSG statement).

- (ii) the conditions of the coal or oil shale mining lease have been substantially complied with.

Note—

If the area of the petroleum lease includes overlapping ATP land, the authority holder's written agreement is needed to carry out any authorised activity under the lease other than an activity related to incidental coal seam gas. See part 5, division 1.

357 Provisions of petroleum lease

- (1) Section 123 applies to the granting of the lease as if the petroleum lease application were an ATP-related application.
- (2) In deciding the provisions of the petroleum lease, the following matters must also be considered—
 - (a) the conditions of the relevant mining lease;
 - (b) the development plan for the relevant mining lease;
 - (c) if the area of the petroleum lease will include overlapping ATP land—
 - (i) the legitimate business interests, rights and future development proposals of the authority to prospect holder; and
 - (ii) the likelihood of coordinated production of petroleum in relation to the overlapping ATP land being subject to an agreement under section 364(2).
- (3) A relinquishment condition may be imposed.¹⁵³
- (4) Subsection (3) does not limit any power under chapter 2 to impose conditions on the petroleum lease.

¹⁵³ See however section 368 (Cessation of relinquishment condition for area not overlapping with coal or oil shale exploration tenement).

Part 4 **Additional provisions for authorities to prospect and data acquisition authorities**

Division 1 **Grant of authority to prospect in area of coal or oil shale exploration tenement**

358 **Provisions for authority to prospect**

- (1) The Mineral Resources Act does not limit or otherwise affect the power under this Act to grant an authority to prospect over land (the *overlapping land*) in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement.
- (2) However, an authorised activity for the authority to prospect can not be carried out on the overlapping land if—
 - (a) carrying it out adversely affects the carrying out of an authorised activity for the coal or oil shale exploration tenement; and
 - (b) the authorised activity for the coal or oil shale exploration tenement has already started.

Division 2 **Restriction on authorised activities on coal mining lease or oil shale mining lease land**

359 **Application of div 2**

This division applies if land in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease is—

- (a) in the area of an authority to prospect; or
- (b) subject to a data acquisition authority.

360 Restriction

- (1) An authorised activity for the authority may be carried out on the land only if—
 - (a) the mining lease holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity and to the safety management plan of the authority holder; and
 - (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the agreement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) the agreement is still in force.¹⁵⁴
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply, or ceases to apply, if the same person holds the authority and the mining lease.

Division 3 Exceptions to particular area provisions**361 Exceptions**

Section 98(4) and 101 do not apply for an authority to prospect if the petroleum lease is granted under part 2, division 2 or part 3, division 3.

Division 4 Conditions**362 Notice to coal or oil shale exploration tenement holders and applicants**

- (1) This section applies if, when an authority to prospect is granted, land in the area of the authority is in the area of a coal

¹⁵⁴ See also the Mineral Resources Act, section 403 (Offences regarding land subject to mining claim or mining lease).

or oil shale exploration tenement or a proposed area under a coal or oil shale exploration tenement application.

- (2) It is a condition of the authority that its holder must, within 20 business days after the holder receives notice of the grant, give the tenement holder or the applicant notice stating—
- (a) that the authority has been granted; and
 - (b) the authority holder's name; and
 - (c) the term of the authority.

363 Compliance with obligations under Mineral Resources Act

If an obligation under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318AW or 318DB, applies to an authority to prospect holder, it is a condition of the authority that the holder must comply with the obligation.

Part 4A Additional provisions if overlapping mineral (f) pilot tenure

Division 1 Preliminary

363A Definitions for pt 4A

In this part—

MDLA 407 see section 363B(2).

mineral (f) production tenure, for overlapping mineral (f) land, means a tenure that authorises the production of mineral (f) for the land.

mineral (f) tenure means a mineral (f) pilot tenure or a mineral (f) production tenure.

mineral (f) pilot tenure see section 363B(1).

overlapping mineral (f) land see section 363B(1).

363B Application of pt 4A

- (1) This part applies to land (*overlapping mineral (f) land*) in the area of—
 - (a) mineral development licence 309, 374 or 385 (a *mineral (f) pilot tenure*); or
 - (b) any mineral (f) production tenure granted for land in the area of a mineral development licence mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (2) This part also applies to land the subject of mineral development licence application 407 (*MDLA 407*).

363C Relationship with other provisions

- (1) This part applies despite—
 - (a) other provisions of this chapter or the Mineral Resources Act; and
 - (b) the conditions or other provisions of an authority to prospect.
- (2) If this part conflicts with another provision of this chapter or the Mineral Resources Act, this part prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

Division 2 General suspension

363D Suspension of authorised activities for authority to prospect

- (1) This section applies to an authorised activity for an authority to prospect in the area of overlapping mineral (f) land.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3) and section 363E, any right to carry out the activity on the overlapping mineral (f) land is suspended.

- (3) During the suspension, the authority holder may carry out an authorised activity for the authority on the overlapping mineral (f) land only if—
- (a) the mineral (f) tenure holder for the land has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
 - (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the relevant office; and
 - (c) the agreement is still in force.
- (4) The suspension continues until the mineral (f) tenure ends.
- (5) In this section—
- relevant office* means—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging an agreement mentioned in subsection (3)(a), as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is stated under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

363E Entry rights for particular activities during suspension

- (1) An authority to prospect holder to whom section 363D applies may, without an agreement mentioned in that section, enter the overlapping mineral (f) land to—
- (a) carry out rehabilitation or environmental management required of the holder under any relevant environmental requirement under the Environmental Protection Act; or
 - (b) carry out low impact environmental monitoring; or
- Examples—*
- the monitoring of air, ecology, fauna, hydrology, soil or water
 - (c) move, remove or maintain equipment, machinery or plant; or
 - (d) carry out improvement restoration for the authority to prospect; or
 - (e) carry out care and maintenance of disturbed areas; or
 - (f) carry out low impact track construction or maintenance; or

- (g) use or maintain infrastructure put in place on the land before the commencement of this section; or
 - (h) put in place or maintain infrastructure for a purpose, or to do an activity, mentioned in paragraphs (d) to (g); or
 - (i) construct pipelines for transporting water in the area of mineral development licence 374 for infrastructure mentioned in paragraph (g), if—
 - (i) the construction is an authorised activity for the authority to prospect; and
 - (ii) the mineral (f) tenure holder for the land has agreed in writing to the location of the pipelines; and
 - (iii) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the relevant office; and
 - (iv) the agreement is still in force.
- (2) Subsection (1) is subject to section 363F.
- (3) The authority holder's rights and obligations under the rest of this Act continue to apply for an entry and the carrying out of an activity authorised under subsection (1).
- (4) In this section—

improvement restoration, for an authority to prospect, means the repair of any damage caused by an activity under the authority to all pre-existing improvements on, or attached to, the land subject to the authority by—

- (a) restoring them to the same, or substantially the same, condition they were in before the damage happened; or
- (b) replacing them with another improvement in the condition mentioned in paragraph (a).

relevant office means—

- (a) the office of the department for lodging an agreement mentioned in subsection (1)(i)(iii), as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
- (b) if no office is stated under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

rest of this Act means the provisions of this Act other than this part.

363F Notice of entry under s 363E

Before entering land under section 363E(1), an authority to prospect holder must, at least 10 business days before the entry, give the mineral (f) tenure holder for the land a notice stating the following—

- (a) the area of the overlapping mineral (f) land proposed to be entered;
- (b) the period during which the land will be entered (the *entry period*);
- (c) the activities proposed to be carried out on the land under section 363E(1);
- (d) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out.

363G Ministerial power to suspend authority to prospect requirements

- (1) This section applies if the Minister is satisfied that, because of section 363D, the holder of an authority to prospect is not able to, or will not be able to, carry out all or any authorised activities for the authority.
- (2) The Minister may, by giving notice to the authority holder, decide to suspend or limit any of the performance requirements for the authority to prospect, for all or part of the term of the authority.
- (3) During the suspension or limitation, the obligation does not apply to the extent of the suspension or limitation.
- (4) In this section—

performance requirement means an obligation under this Act or a condition of an authority to prospect, and includes an obligation about relinquishment.

Division 3 Resolving disputes

363H Negotiation and request to Minister

- (1) This section applies if there is a dispute about any of the following—
 - (a) a right to carry out an authorised activity under section 363D;
 - (b) a right to enter overlapping mineral (f) land under section 363E;
 - (c) any request made by a mineral (f) tenure holder to an authority to prospect holder to remove or modify infrastructure on overlapping mineral (f) land, if the infrastructure was put in place on the land under—
 - (i) an agreement entered into under section 363D(3);
or
 - (ii) section 363E(1).
- (2) The parties must use all reasonable endeavours to attempt to resolve the dispute.
- (3) After complying with subsection (2), either of the parties may, by a notice in the approved form, ask the Minister to decide whether the entry is allowed or the activity may be carried out.
- (4) Before making a decision, the Minister must give the parties an opportunity to make submissions about the request within a reasonable period.
- (5) Also before making the decision, the Minister may refer the dispute under section 363I to the Land Court for it to make recommendations about deciding the dispute.

363I Reference to Land Court

- (1) A referral by the Minister under section 363H(5) must be made by filing a notice in the approved form with the registrar of the Land Court.
- (2) The referral starts a proceeding before the Land Court for it to make the recommendations.

- (3) The parties to the proceeding are the mineral (f) tenure holder and the authority to prospect holder for the overlapping mineral (f) land to which the dispute relates.

363J Decision by Minister

- (1) The Minister must, after considering the following, decide the matter and give the parties notice of the decision—
 - (a) any submissions made by the parties under section 363H(4);
 - (b) any recommendations by the Land Court.
- (2) In making a decision, the Minister may also consider the public interest.
- (3) The Minister's decision binds the parties.
- (4) The Minister may impose conditions on any decision that the entry is allowed or the authorised activity may be carried out.

Division 4 Obtaining petroleum lease if overlapping mineral (f) land or land in area of MDLA 407

363K Additional provision about area of petroleum lease

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person who, under section 117, may make an ATP-related application for land that includes any of the following makes that application—
 - (i) land that is overlapping mineral (f) land;
 - (ii) land in the area of MDLA 407; and
 - (b) the Minister decides to grant the petroleum lease.
- (2) Without limiting section 168, the area of the petroleum lease can not include—
 - (a) the land that is overlapping mineral (f) land; or
 - (b) land in the area of MDLA 407.

- (3) The Minister may, in the lease, describe the exclusion of the land under subsection (2) in a way the Minister considers appropriate.

363L Minister may add land to petroleum lease if mineral (f) tenure ends

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) land is not included in a petroleum lease because of section 363K(2); and
 - (b) if the land is—
 - (i) overlapping mineral (f) land—the mineral (f) tenure for the land ends; and
 - (ii) in the area of MDLA 407—
 - (A) the mineral (f) pilot tenure for mineral development licence 309 ends; and
 - (B) a mineral (f) production tenure has not been granted for land in the mineral development licence's area.
- (2) The Minister may amend the petroleum lease by adding the land to the lease area if—
- (a) the lease as amended complies with section 168; and
 - (b) the lease holder consents.
- (3) The Minister may amend the provisions of the lease in a way that reflects the inclusion of the land.
- (4) Also, the Minister may give the lease holder a notice—
- (a) withdrawing, from a stated day, the approval of the development plan for the lease; and
 - (b) directing the holder to lodge at the relevant office a proposed later development plan for the lease that—
 - (i) complies with the later development plan requirements; and
 - (ii) changes the development plan for the lease to reflect the inclusion of the land.

- (5) The amended provisions of the lease or the proposed later development plan must not be—
- (a) inconsistent with the mandatory conditions of petroleum leases; or
 - (b) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the lease.
- (6) In this section—
- relevant office* means—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging proposed later development plans, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Part 5 **Additional provisions for petroleum leases**

Division 1 **Restriction on authorised activities for particular petroleum leases**

364 **Restriction on authorised activities on overlapping ATP land**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) the area of a petroleum lease includes overlapping ATP land; and
- Note—*
- Overlapping ATP land includes land in the area of the lease that is excluded land for the authority to prospect. See sections 341(2)(c) and 357(2)(c).
- (b) the petroleum lease was, under section 340 or 356, granted to someone other than the relevant authority to prospect holder.

- (2) The petroleum lease holder may carry out an authorised activity for the petroleum lease on the overlapping ATP land only if—
- (a) the authority to prospect holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity and—
 - (i) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the relevant office; and
 - (ii) the agreement is still in force; or
 - (b) the activity relates to incidental coal seam gas mined or to be mined within the mine working envelope.¹⁵⁵
- (3) In this section—

mine working envelope means land that—

- (a) is in the area of a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease the area of which includes the overlapping ATP land; and
- (b) covers any of the following or is needed for post-production activities—
 - (i) past mine workings;
 - (ii) current mine workings;
 - (iii) mine workings scheduled to be mined within the next 5 years;
 - (iv) authorised activities for the mining lease associated with the processing, transportation, storage and use of the incidental coal seam gas produced.

relevant office means—

- (a) the office of the department for lodging agreements mentioned in subsection (2)(a), as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
- (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

155 See also section 934 (Substituted restriction for petroleum leases relating to mineral hydrocarbon mining leases).

Division 2 Conditions

365 Continuing requirement for coordination arrangement for particular petroleum leases

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a petroleum lease is granted over land in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease and the application for the petroleum lease was not made by or jointly with the mining lease holder; or
 - (b) a petroleum lease holder is a party to a coordination arrangement mentioned in section 379.
- (2) It is a condition of the petroleum lease that—
 - (a) its holder must continue to be party to a relevant coordination arrangement; and
 - (b) authorised activities for the petroleum lease must not be carried out if there is no relevant coordination arrangement.¹⁵⁶
- (3) In this section—

relevant coordination arrangement means a coordination arrangement with the mining lease holder about—

 - (a) petroleum production under the petroleum lease; and
 - (b) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under the mining lease.

366 Compliance with obligation to negotiate with coal or oil shale mining lease applicant

If the obligation under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CA, applies to a petroleum lease holder, it is a condition of the lease that the holder must comply with the obligation.

¹⁵⁶ For subleases under a coordination arrangement, see section 238 (Subleasing of 1923 Act lease provided for under coordination arrangement).

367 Requirement for giving of copy of relinquishment report

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a petroleum lease holder has, under section 545, given a report about a relinquishment of part of the area of the lease; and
 - (b) immediately before the relinquishment, the part included land in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement.
- (2) The petroleum lease holder must give a copy of the report to—
- (a) the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder; and
 - (b) anyone else who has applied for a mining lease for the part.

Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.

368 Cessation of relinquishment condition for area not overlapping with coal or oil shale exploration tenement

If—

- (a) a petroleum lease contains a relinquishment condition; and
- (b) all or part of the area of the lease ceases to be in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement (the *relevant land*);

the condition ceases to apply for the relevant land.

Division 3 Amendment of relinquishment condition by application

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

369 Application of div 3

This division applies if a petroleum lease contains a relinquishment condition and all or part of the area of the lease is in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement.

Subdivision 2 Making application to amend relinquishment condition

370 Conditions for applying to amend

- (1) The petroleum lease holder may apply for the Minister to amend the condition if the applicant has, before making the application—
 - (a) made reasonable attempts to consult with the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder about—
 - (i) the proposed amendment; and
 - (ii) a proposed later development plan for the lease; and
 - (b) changed the proposed amendment and the proposed later development plan to give effect to any reasonable proposal by the tenement holder that will optimise—
 - (i) petroleum production under the amended petroleum lease; and
 - (ii) coal, oil shale or incidental coal seam gas mining under any future mining lease over the land.
- (2) However, subsection (1)(b) applies only to the extent the provisions are commercially and technically feasible for the applicant.

371 Obligation of coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder to negotiate

The coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder must, if asked by the petroleum lease holder, make reasonable attempts to reach an agreement with the petroleum lease holder about the matters mentioned in section 370(1)(b) that provides the best resource use outcome without significantly affecting the parties' rights or interests.¹⁵⁷

372 Requirements for making application

- (1) The application must—
 - (a) be in the approved form; and
 - (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the application, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) state whether or not the development plan for the petroleum lease has been complied with; and
 - (d) if the development plan for the lease has not been complied with—state details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance; and
 - (e) include a CSG statement; and
 - (f) include a proposed later development plan for the lease as amended under section 370; and
 - (g) include a statement about each of the following—
 - (i) the details of the consultation carried out under section 370(1)(a);
 - (ii) the results of the consultation;

¹⁵⁷ See also part 8 (Confidentiality of information).

- (iii) whether the proposed development plan includes all provisions proposed by the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder under section 370(1)(b);
 - (iv) if the proposed development plan does not include a provision proposed by the tenement holder—why it was not included;
 - (v) the applicant’s assessment of the potential for the applicant and the tenement holder to make a coordination arrangement about—
 - (A) petroleum production under the amended petroleum lease; and
 - (B) coal, oil shale or incidental coal seam gas mining under any future mining lease over the land that may be granted to the tenement holder; and
 - (h) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) However, the CSG statement need not include a proposed safety management plan.

373 Notice of application

The applicant must immediately after making the application give the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder a copy of the application.

Subdivision 3 Deciding amendment application

374 Submissions by coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder

- (1) The coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder may lodge submissions about the application at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or

- (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (2) However, the submissions may be lodged only within 20 business days after the holder is, under section 373, given a copy of the application.
- (3) The submissions may include—
 - (a) information about all or any of the following—
 - (i) exploration carried out under the tenement;
 - (ii) the results of the exploration;
 - (iii) the prospects for future coal or oil shale mining or incidental coal seam gas mining from the land; or
 - (b) a proposal by the tenement holder for the development of coal or oil shale in the land; or
 - (c) information relevant to the CSG assessment criteria.
- (4) The holder must give the applicant a copy of the submissions.
- (5) In deciding the application, regard must be had to the submissions.

375 Minister may require further negotiation

- (1) The Minister may, by notice, require the applicant to conduct negotiations with the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder with a view to making changes of a type mentioned in section 370(1)(b).
- (2) The applicant must use all reasonable attempts to comply with the requirement.
- (3) If the Minister is reasonably satisfied the applicant has not complied with the requirement the Minister may decide to refuse the application.

376 Deciding amendment application

- (1) Before deciding to grant the application, the Minister must decide whether to approve the applicant's proposed later development plan for the petroleum lease.

- (2) The application can not be granted unless the proposed plan has been approved.
- (3) Chapter 2, part 2, division 4¹⁵⁸ applies for deciding whether to approve the proposed plan.
- (4) The matters that must be considered in deciding the application include each of the following—
 - (a) the CSG assessment criteria;
 - (b) whether the applicant has taken all reasonable steps to comply with the relinquishment condition;
 - (c) the effect of any approval of later development plans for the petroleum lease;
 - (d) any submissions under section 374 lodged within the period mentioned in section 374(2).
- (5) After the application has been decided, the applicant and the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder must be given notice of the decision.

Division 4 Restriction on amendment of other conditions

377 Interests of relevant coal or oil shale mining tenement holder to be considered

A condition of a petroleum lease must not be amended under section 848 unless the interests of any relevant coal or oil shale mining tenement holder have been considered.

158 Chapter 2, part 2, division 4 (Development plans)

See also part 6 (Additional provisions for development plans), division 2 (Later development plans).

Division 5 Renewals

378 **Applied provisions for making and deciding renewal application**

- (1) The adopted provisions apply for a renewal application for a petroleum lease—
 - (a) as if the petroleum lease holder had lodged a proposed later development plan for the Minister to approve; and
 - (b) as if a reference in the adopted provisions—
 - (i) to the application were a reference to the renewal application; and
 - (ii) to a petroleum lease were a reference to the renewed petroleum lease; and
 - (iii) to a proposed initial development plan, an initial development plan, a proposed development plan or a development plan were a reference to a proposed later development plan or a later development plan; and
 - (iv) in section 314(5), to the ATP-related application were a reference to the conditions of the renewed lease.
- (2) In this section—

adopted provisions means—

 - (a) if all or part of the land in the area of the petroleum lease is in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement—part 2, division 1, subdivisions 2 and 4; or
 - (b) if all or part of the land in the area of the petroleum lease is in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease and the coal or oil shale mining lease holder is not a holder of the petroleum lease—part 3, division 2 (other than sections 346 and 347); or
 - (c) if all or part of the land in the area of the petroleum lease is in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease and the coal or oil shale mining lease holder holds the petroleum lease—part 3, division 3 (other than sections 354 and 355).

Division 6 Restrictions on particular transfers

379 Requirement for coordination arrangement to transfer petroleum lease in tenure area of mining lease

- (1) This section applies, despite chapter 5, part 10, if land is in the area of a petroleum lease and a coal or oil shale mining lease.
- (2) A transfer of the petroleum lease must not be approved under chapter 5, part 10 unless the proposed transferee and the mining lease holder are parties to a coordination arrangement about—
 - (a) petroleum production under the petroleum lease; and
 - (b) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under the mining lease.

Part 6 Additional provisions for development plans

Division 1 Initial development plans

Subdivision 1 Additional requirements for proposed initial development plan

380 Operation of sdiv 1

This subdivision provides for additional requirements for a proposed initial development plan for a petroleum lease applied for under chapter 2 or this chapter.¹⁵⁹

¹⁵⁹ For other development plan requirements, see chapter 2, part 2, division 4, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

381 Statement about interests of coal or oil shale mining tenement holder

The proposed plan must include a statement of how the effects on, and the interests of, any relevant overlapping or adjacent coal or oil shale mining tenement holder have, or have not, been considered, having regard to—

- (a) the main purposes of this chapter;¹⁶⁰ and
- (b) the CSG assessment criteria.

382 Requirement to optimise petroleum production

- (1) The activities provided for under the proposed plan must seek to optimise petroleum production in a safe and efficient way.
- (2) However, the activities must not adversely affect the future safe and efficient mining of coal where it is commercially and technically feasible not to do so.

383 Consistency with coal or oil shale mining lease development plan and relevant coordination arrangement

If all or part of the area of the proposed petroleum lease is in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease (the *relevant land*), the proposed plan must, to the extent it applies to the relevant land, be consistent with—

- (a) the development plan for the mining lease; and
- (b) any coordination arrangement relating to the relevant land.

Subdivision 2 Other additional provisions**383A Application of sdiv 2**

This subdivision applies if—

- (a) the Minister is considering whether to approve a proposed initial development plan for a proposed

¹⁶⁰ See section 295 (Main purposes of ch 3).

petroleum lease; and

- (b) the area of the proposed lease includes all or part of the area of a coal or oil shale mining tenement.

383B Additional criteria for approval

The matters that must be considered include the CSG assessment criteria.

383C Restriction on approval

The proposed plan can not be approved unless the applicant for the proposed lease has complied with the obligations under section 310(1)(b).

Division 2 Later development plans

Subdivision 1 Additional requirements for proposed later development plans

383D Additional requirements under div 1, sdiv 1 apply

A proposed later development plan for a petroleum lease must comply with the additional requirements under sections 381 to 383 for a proposed initial development plan for a petroleum lease.

Subdivision 2 Other additional provisions

384 Additional criteria

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) the Minister is considering whether to approve a proposed later development plan for a petroleum lease; and

- explore for, extract, produce, release or transport petroleum (*relevant operating plant*); and
- (b) activities (*relevant activities*) carried out, or proposed to be carried out, at the plant may adversely affect the safe and efficient mining of coal in the area of a coal or oil shale mining tenement.
- (2) Before any operator may operate relevant operating plant, each operator must have made reasonable attempts to consult with the tenement holder about relevant activities for the plant.
- (3) If there is more than 1 operator, the petroleum tenure holder may coordinate the consultation between the operators and the tenement holder.
- (4) For subsection (2), an operator is taken to have made reasonable attempts to consult if—
- (a) the operator gives the tenement holder a copy of the relevant parts, mentioned in section 306(2)(a), of the operator's proposed safety management plan for any relevant operating plant the operator proposes to operate; and
- (b) the tenement holder has not, within 30 days after the giving of the copy, made any proposal to the operator about provisions for the plan.¹⁶²
- (5) An operator must, before making or re-making a safety management plan for any relevant operating plant the operator operates or proposes to operate, have regard to any reasonable provisions for the plan proposed by the tenement holder that relate to relevant activities for the plant.
- (6) However, the obligation under subsection (5) applies only to the extent the provisions are commercially and technically feasible for the operator or any relevant petroleum tenure holder.
- (7) If an operator makes a safety management plan for relevant operating plant that includes provisions proposed by the tenement holder, the operator must—

¹⁶² For the making of the safety management plan, see section 674 (Requirement to have safety management plan).

- (a) give the tenement holder a copy; and
 - (b) lodge at the following office a notice stating any provisions proposed under subsection (5) and whether they were included in the plan—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief inspector.
- (8) In this section—
- re-making*, a safety management plan, includes an amendment or remaking of the plan of a type required under section 678.

387 Resolving disputes about provision proposed by coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder

- (1) This section applies if a dispute exists between an operator under section 386 and a coal or oil shale mining tenement holder about the reasonableness of a provision proposed by the tenement holder for the operator's proposed safety management plan.
- (2) Either party to the dispute may refer it to the chief inspector to decide whether the proposed provision is reasonable.
- (3) The referral must be—
 - (a) written; and
 - (b) lodged at the following office (the *relevant office*)—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the referral, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief inspector.
- (4) Before deciding the dispute, the chief inspector must give each party a reasonable opportunity to lodge at the relevant office submissions about the dispute.
- (5) The chief inspector's decision binds each party to the dispute.

- (6) The chief inspector must give each party an information notice about the decision.
- (7) The chief inspector's decision is not, of itself, evidence that a safety management plan, or purported safety management plan, for an operating plant complies with section 388 or 675.

388 Additional content requirements

- (1) Subject to any exemption granted under section 389, a safety management plan for an operating plant used to explore for, extract, produce or release petroleum within coal seams being completed or tested must include—
 - (a) an identification and description of all activities carried out, or proposed to be carried out, at the plant that may adversely affect the safe and efficient mining, or future mining, of coal; and
 - (b) proposed measures to mitigate the risks to safe and efficient mining, or future mining, of mining coal seams to an acceptable level of risk; and
 - (c) an assessment of the potential risks the activities may cause to the safe and efficient mining, or future mining, of coal.
- (2) The proposed measures must comply with—
 - (a) good industry practice; and
 - (b) any relevant safety requirement; and
 - (c) protocols or standards prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) A regulation may prescribe—
 - (a) what is good industry practice; and
 - (b) matters to which regard must be had in deciding what is good industry practice.

389 Exemption from additional content requirements

- (1) The chief inspector may grant an operator, or proposed operator, of an operating plant an exemption from complying with a stated requirement, or a stated part of a requirement, under section 388 for—

- (a) all or part of a stated petroleum tenure; or
 - (b) a stated coal seam.
- (2) The operator, or proposed operator, may apply for the exemption.
- (2A) Also, any relevant petroleum tenure holder may apply for the exemption on behalf of the operator or proposed operator.
- (3) The application must be—
- (a) in the approved form; and
 - (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the application, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief inspector.
- (4) The chief inspector must, after receiving the application, give any relevant coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder—
- (a) a copy of the application; and
 - (b) a notice stating the holder may, within 20 business days after receiving the notice, lodge submissions about the application at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief inspector.
- (5) The holder must give the applicant a copy of any submissions lodged by the holder within the 20 business days.
- (6) The chief inspector must—
- (a) consider any submissions lodged by the holder within the 20 business days; and
 - (b) give the applicant at least 20 business days after the lodging of the holder's submissions to respond to them in writing; and

- (c) consider any written response made under paragraph (b).
- (7) The application must not be decided unless subsection (5) has been complied with.
- (8) In deciding the application the chief inspector—
 - (a) must have regard to the purposes of this chapter;¹⁶³ and
 - (b) may seek advice or recommendations from a technical advisory committee established under section 732B for coal seam gas; and
 - (c) must consider the committee's advice or recommendations.
- (9) However, before the giving of the advice or recommendations, the members of the committee must declare whether they have any conflict of interest in relation to the application.
- (10) If any member declares the member has a conflict of interest, an alternate member may be appointed to substitute for the member when the advice or recommendation is considered.
- (11) The applicant must be given notice of the decision.

Part 8 Confidentiality of information

390 Application of pt 8

- (1) This part applies if a tenure holder or a person who has applied for a tenure (the *information-giver*) gives another tenure holder or a person who has applied for a tenure (the *recipient*) information—
 - (a) that this chapter requires the information-giver to give the recipient, including, for example, information given to comply with section 313(a); or
 - (b) for the purposes of this chapter.

¹⁶³ See section 295 (Main purposes of ch 3).

(2) However, this part applies subject to any agreement between the information-giver and the recipient about the information or its use.

(3) In this section—

information means information given verbally or in writing.

tenure means a petroleum tenure or a coal or oil shale mining tenement.

391 Confidentiality obligations

(1) The recipient must not disclose the information to anyone else, unless—

(a) the information is publicly available; or

(b) the disclosure is—

(i) to someone whom the recipient has authorised to carry out the authorised activities for the recipient's petroleum tenure or coal or oil shale mining tenement; or

(ii) made with the information-giver's consent; or

(iii) expressly permitted or required under this or another Act; or

(iv) to the Minister.

(2) The recipient may use the information only for the purpose for which it is given.

392 Civil remedies

If the recipient does not comply with section 391, a court of competent jurisdiction may order the recipient to pay the information-giver all or any of the following—

(a) compensation for any loss the information-giver incurred because of the failure to comply with the section;

(b) the amount of any commercial gain the recipient made because of the failure to comply with the section.

Chapter 3A Provisions for GHG authorities

Part 1 Preliminary

392AA Relationship with chs 2 and 3

- (1) Requirements and restrictions under this chapter relating to the granting of a petroleum tenure apply as well as any relevant requirements under chapter 2 or 3.
- (2) If this chapter imposes a requirement for or a restriction on the granting of a petroleum tenure, it can not be granted if the restriction applies or if the requirement has not been complied with.
- (3) If a provision of this chapter conflicts with a provision of chapter 2 the provision of this chapter prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.
- (4) This chapter does not otherwise limit or affect the requirements of chapter 2.
- (5) Subsection (6) applies if this chapter imposes a requirement for or a restriction on the carrying out of an authorised activity for a petroleum tenure.
- (6) Despite chapter 2, the activity is not an authorised activity for the petroleum tenure while the restriction applies or if the requirement has not been complied with.

392AB What is an *overlapping GHG authority*

- (1) An *overlapping GHG authority*, for a petroleum authority is any GHG authority, all or part of the area of which is in the petroleum authority's area.
- (2) An *overlapping GHG authority*, for a proposed petroleum authority, is a GHG tenure all or part of the area of which will, if the proposed petroleum authority is granted, be in the GHG authority's area.

392AC What is the *GHG public interest*

The *GHG public interest* is a consideration of each of the following—

- (a) government policy;
- (b) environmental impacts;
- (c) employment creation;
- (d) social impacts;
- (e) the overall economic benefit for the State, or a part of the State, in the short and long term;
- (f) impacts on aesthetic, amenity or cultural values.

392AD General provision about petroleum authorities for land subject to GHG authority

Subject to the other provisions of this chapter and chapters 2 and 3, the GHG storage Act or a GHG authority does not limit or otherwise affect—

- (a) the power under this Act to grant a petroleum authority; or
- (b) the carrying out of authorised activities for a petroleum authority.

Part 2 Obtaining petroleum lease if overlapping GHG tenure**Division 1 Preliminary****392AE Application of pt 2**

This part applies if—

- (a) a person (the *applicant*) wishes to make a petroleum lease application; and

- (b) there is an overlapping GHG authority for the proposed petroleum lease; and
- (c) the GHG authority is a GHG tenure.

Division 2 Requirements for application

392AF Requirements for making application

- (1) The petroleum lease application must include—
 - (a) a statement that complies with section 392AG (a *GHG statement*); and
 - (b) other information that addresses the matters mentioned in subsection (2) (the *GHG assessment criteria*), other than about attempts to consult with the GHG tenure holder.
- (2) The GHG assessment criteria are—
 - (a) compliance with the provisions of chapter 9; and
 - (b) the additional requirements under part 6 for proposed initial development plans; and
 - (c) the potential for the parties to make a GHG coordination arrangement for the proposed petroleum lease; and
 - (d) the economic and technical viability of the concurrent or coordinated carrying out of authorised activities for the proposed petroleum lease and the GHG tenure; and
 - (e) the GHG public interest.

392AG Content requirements for GHG statement

- (1) The GHG statement must—
 - (a) assess—
 - (i) the likely effect of proposed authorised activities for the proposed petroleum lease on the future carrying out of GHG storage activities under the GHG tenure; and

- (ii) the technical and commercial feasibility of coordinating the proposed authorised activities and the future carrying out of the GHG storage activities; and
 - (b) include a proposed safety management plan for all operating plant proposed to be operated under the proposed petroleum lease that may affect the possible future safe and efficient carrying out of the GHG storage activities.
- (2) The proposed safety management plan must—
- (a) for activities of the plant that may affect future safe and efficient future carrying out of the GHG storage activities—comply with the requirements under section 675 for a safety management plan; and
 - (b) include proposals for the minimisation of potential adverse effects on possible future carrying out of GHG storage activities under the GHG tenure.

Division 3 Consultation provisions

392AH Applicant's information obligation

- (1) The applicant must within 10 business days after making the petroleum lease application give the GHG tenure holder a copy of the application other than any part of the application relating to the capability criteria.
- (2) If the Minister is reasonably satisfied the applicant has not complied with an obligation under this division, the petroleum lease application may be refused.

392AI Submissions by GHG tenure holder

- (1) The GHG tenure holder may lodge submissions about the petroleum lease application (*holder submissions*) at the relevant departmental office.
- (2) However, holder submissions may be lodged only within 4 months after the holder is given a copy of the application.

- (3) Holder submissions may do all or any of the following—
- (a) state that the holder does not object to the granting of the proposed petroleum lease;
 - (b) if the GHG tenure is a GHG permit—
 - (i) state that the holder does not wish any priority (*overlapping authority priority*) for GHG stream storage under any future GHG lease that may arise from the GHG permit; and
 - (ii) include a proposal by the GHG tenure holder for GHG stream storage under any future GHG lease that may arise from the GHG permit;
 - (c) include information about authorised activities carried out under the GHG tenure;
 - (d) include information relevant to the GHG assessment criteria;
 - (e) propose reasonable provisions for the safety management plan for the proposed petroleum lease.
- (4) The holder must give the applicant a copy of the holder submissions.

Division 4 Resource management decision if overlapping GHG permit

392AJ Application of div 4

- (1) This division applies if—
- (a) the GHG tenure is a GHG permit; and
 - (b) the GHG permit holder has lodged holder submissions within 4 months after the holder was given a copy of the application; and
 - (c) the submissions state that the holder wishes overlapping authority priority.

- (2) However, this division does not apply if, under the GHG storage Act, chapter 4, overlapping authority priority has been given for any of the relevant land.

Note—

If this division does not apply, the petroleum lease application proceeds immediately to decision under chapter 2 as affected by division 7.

392AK Resource management decision

The Minister must make a decision (the *resource management decision*) about whether to—

- (a) grant the petroleum lease application; or
- (b) give any overlapping authority priority for all or part of the relevant land; or
- (c) not to grant the petroleum lease application and not to give any overlapping authority priority for any of the relevant land.

392AL Criteria for decision

The Minister must consider the following in making the resource management decision—

- (a) the GHG statement;
- (b) the GHG assessment criteria;
- (c) the holder submissions;
- (d) the GHG public interest.

392AM Restrictions on giving overlapping authority priority

Overlapping authority priority may be recommended or given only if it is considered—

- (a) either—
 - (i) it is unlikely that the applicant and the GHG permit holder will enter into a GHG coordination arrangement; or

- (ii) a GHG coordination arrangement for the proposed petroleum lease is not commercially or technically feasible; and
- (b) the GHG public interest would be best served by not granting a petroleum lease to the applicant first.

Division 5 Process if resource management decision is to give overlapping authority priority

392AN Application of div 5

This division applies only if under division 4, a resource management decision is required and that decision was to give overlapping authority priority for all or part of the relevant land.

392AO Notice to applicant and GHG permit holder

- (1) The chief executive must give the applicant and the GHG permit holder notice of the resource management decision.
- (2) The notice must invite the GHG permit holder to, within 6 months after the giving of the notice (the *overlapping GHG lease application period*), apply for a GHG lease—
 - (a) if the priority is for all of the land—for all of the land; or
 - (b) if the priority is for part of the land—for that part.

392AP GHG lease application for all of the land

- (1) This section applies if the priority is for all of the land and within the overlapping GHG lease application period the overlapping GHG permit holder applies for a GHG lease for all of the land.
- (2) A further step can not be taken to decide the petroleum lease application until after the GHG lease application has been decided.

Note—

The GHG storage Act, chapter 4, part 5 provides for refusal of the GHG lease application if it is not pursued in a timely manner.

- (3) If the decision on the GHG lease application is to grant a GHG lease for all of the land, the petroleum lease application is taken to have lapsed.

392AQ GHG lease application for part of the land

- (1) This section applies if the overlapping GHG permit holder applies for a GHG lease for part of the land within the overlapping GHG lease application period.
- (2) The person who made the petroleum lease application may amend it so that a petroleum lease is only sought for all or part of the rest of the land.
- (3) Unless the amendment is made, a further step can not be taken to decide the petroleum lease application until after the GHG lease application has been decided.
- (4) If—
 - (a) the amendment has not been made; and
 - (b) the decision on the GHG lease application is to grant a GHG lease for part of the land;

the person who made the petroleum lease application may amend it so that a petroleum lease is only sought for all or part of the rest of the land.

Note—

If the petroleum lease application is not amended, see section 392AU (Application may be refused if no reasonable prospects of GHG coordination arrangement).

392AR No relevant lease application

If the GHG permit holder does not apply for a GHG lease for any of the land within the overlapping GHG lease application period, the petroleum lease application may be decided.

Division 6 Resource management decision not to grant and not to give priority

392AS Lapsing of application

The petroleum lease application is taken to have lapsed if—

- (a) under division 4, a resource management decision is required; and
- (b) that decision was not to grant the petroleum lease application and not to give any overlapping authority priority for any of the relevant land.

Division 7 Deciding application

392AT Application of div 7

This division applies if—

- (a) the GHG tenure holder has not lodged holder submissions within 4 months after the holder was given a copy of the application (the *submission period*) or at all; or
- (b) the GHG tenure holder has lodged holder submissions within the submission period stating that the holder does not wish any overlapping authority priority; or
- (c) under division 4, a resource management decision is required and—
 - (i) the resource management decision was not to give overlapping authority priority for any of the relevant land; or
 - (ii) the resource management decision was to give overlapping authority priority for all or part of the relevant land and after division 5 has been complied with the Minister decides to grant a petroleum lease for the land.

392AU Application may be refused if no reasonable prospects of future GHG coordination arrangement

The Minister may decide to refuse the petroleum lease application if—

- (a) the Minister is satisfied the applicant and the GHG tenure holder have made reasonable attempts to reach a proposed GHG coordination arrangement (a *relevant arrangement*); and
- (b) either—
 - (i) the GHG tenure holder has lodged a notice at the relevant departmental office stating there are no reasonable prospects of a relevant arrangement being made; or
 - (ii) a relevant arrangement has not been lodged for approval by the Minister and the Minister considers the applicant and the GHG tenure holder have had a reasonable opportunity to make a relevant arrangement.

392AV Additional criteria for deciding provisions of petroleum lease

In deciding the provisions of the petroleum lease the Minister must consider all of the following—

- (a) the GHG statement;
- (b) the GHG assessment criteria;
- (c) any holder submissions;
- (d) the affect of the petroleum lease on the safe and efficient carrying out of GHG storage activities under the GHG tenure;
- (e) if the GHG tenure is a GHG permit—the affect of the petroleum lease on the safe and efficient carrying out of GHG storage activities under any future GHG lease that may arise from the permit.

- (c) the GHG lease application had not been decided before the making of the GHG lease application; and
 - (d) if the petroleum lease and the GHG lease were both granted, the GHG lease would be an overlapping GHG authority for the petroleum lease;
- the petroleum lease application must not be decided until the GHG lease application has been decided.

392AY Proposed GHG lease for which EIS approval given

- (1) This section applies for a petroleum lease application if—
 - (a) before the making of the application, an approval under the Environmental Protection Act, chapter 3, part 2, was granted for the voluntary preparation of an EIS; and
 - (b) the EIS is for a project that is, or includes, a proposed GHG lease for land the subject of the application.
- (2) The application must not be decided until—
 - (a) if no application is made for the GHG lease within 1 year after the granting of the approval—the end of that year; or
 - (b) if an application is made for the GHG lease within that year—that application is decided.

392AZ Proposed mining or petroleum lease declared a significant project

- (1) This section applies for a petroleum lease application if—
 - (a) before the making of the application, a significant project was declared; and
 - (b) the project is, or includes, a proposed GHG lease for land the subject of the application.
- (2) The application must not be decided until—
 - (a) if no application is made for the GHG lease within 1 year after the making of the declaration—the end of that year; or

- (b) if an application is made for the GHG lease within that year—that application is decided.

Part 4 Petroleum lease applications in response to invitation under GHG storage Act

392BA Application of pt 4

This part applies if—

- (a) a petroleum lease application is made in response to an invitation given because of a resource management decision under the GHG storage Act; and
- (b) the application is made within 6 months after the giving of the invitation.

392BB Additional ground for refusing application

- (1) The Minister may decide to refuse the application if satisfied the applicant has not in a timely manner—
 - (a) taken any step for the application required of the applicant under chapter 2 or 3 or this chapter; or
 - (b) satisfied the Minister about a matter that under chapter 2 or 3 or this chapter is required for the granting of the application.
- (2) Subsection (2) does not limit section 843.

Editor's note—

section 843 (Additional information may be required about application)

Part 5 **Additional provisions for petroleum authorities**

Division 1 **Restrictions on authorised activities for particular petroleum authorities**

392BC Overlapping GHG lease

- (1) This section applies if land in the area of any of the following petroleum authorities is in the area of a GHG lease—
 - (a) an authority to prospect;
 - (b) a data acquisition authority;
 - (c) a water monitoring authority.
- (2) However, this section does not apply if the same person holds the GHG lease and the petroleum authority.
- (3) An authorised activity for the petroleum authority may be carried out on the land only if—
 - (a) the GHG lease holder has not, in the way required under subsection (4), objected to—
 - (i) the carrying out of the activity; and
 - (ii) if chapter 9 requires a safety management plan for the petroleum authority—the safety management plan; or
 - (b) if an objection under paragraph (a) has been made—the Minister has decided under section 392BE that the authorised activity may be carried out.

Note—

For notice of authorised activities, see section 392BG.

- (4) The objection must be written, given to the petroleum authority holder and lodged at the relevant departmental office.

392BD Overlapping GHG permit

- (1) This section applies if land in the area of any of the following petroleum authorities is in the area of a GHG permit—
 - (a) an authority to prospect;
 - (b) a data acquisition authority;
 - (c) a water monitoring authority.
- (2) An authorised activity for the petroleum authority can not be carried out on the land if—
 - (a) carrying it out adversely affects the carrying out of an authorised activity for the GHG permit; and
 - (b) the authorised activity for the GHG permit has already started.

392BE Resolving disputes

- (1) This section applies if, under section 392BC, a GHG lease holder has objected to the carrying out of an authorised activity by a petroleum authority holder.
- (2) This section also applies if there is a dispute between a petroleum authority holder and a GHG permit holder about whether an authorised activity for the petroleum authority can be carried out under section 392BD
- (3) Either of the parties may, by a notice in the approved form, ask the Minister to decide—
 - (a) for section 392BC—whether the authorised activity may be carried out under that section; or
 - (b) for section 392BD—whether the authorised activity may be carried out under that section.
- (4) Before making the decision, the Minister must give the parties a reasonable opportunity to make submissions about the request within a reasonable period.
- (5) The Minister must after complying with subsection (4) and considering any submission made under that subsection, decide the matter and give the parties notice of the decision.
- (6) The Minister's decision binds the parties.

- (7) If the request is about a matter mentioned in subsection (1), the Minister may impose conditions on any decision that the authorised activity may be carried out.
- (8) In this section—
- parties* means—
- (a) for a request about a matter mentioned in subsection (1)—the petroleum authority holder and the GHG lease holder; or
 - (b) for a request about a matter mentioned in subsection (2)—the petroleum authority holder and the GHG permit holder.

Division 2 Additional conditions

392BF Notice by authority to prospect holder to particular GHG authority holders or applicants

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) an authority to prospect is granted; and
 - (b) land in the authority to prospect's area is in the area of, or in a proposed area under an application for, a GHG authority other than a GHG lease.
- (2) It is a condition of the authority to prospect that its holder must, within 20 business days after the holder receives notice of the grant, give the holder of, or the applicant for, the GHG authority a notice stating—
- (a) that the authority to prospect has been granted; and
 - (b) the authority to prospect holder's name; and
 - (c) the term of the authority to prospect.

392BG Condition to notify particular GHG authority holders of proposed start of particular authorised activities

- (1) This section applies to a petroleum authority holder if there is either of the following (the *other authority*) for the petroleum authority—

- (a) an overlapping GHG authority;
 - (b) a GHG authority that shares a common boundary with the petroleum authority.
- (2) Before the petroleum authority holder first starts a designated activity in the other authority's area, the petroleum authority holder must give the other authority holder at least 30 business days notice of the activity.
- (3) A notice under subsection (2) must state—
- (a) when the designated activity is to start; and
 - (b) where the designated activity is to be carried out; and
 - (c) the nature of the activity.
- (4) Before changing the land on which the designated activity is being carried out, the petroleum authority holder must give the other authority holder at least 30 business days notice stating where the activity is to be carried out.
- (5) Compliance with this section is a condition of the petroleum authority.
- (6) In this section—

GHG storage reservoir see the GHG storage Act, section 13(a).

designated activity means any authorised activity for the petroleum authority, other than—

- (a) an incidental activity under section 33 or 112; or
- (b) an activity that only involves selecting places where other authorised activities for the petroleum authority may be carried out.

392BH Requirement to continue GHG coordination arrangement after renewal of or dealing with petroleum lease

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a petroleum lease has an overlapping GHG authority that is a GHG lease; and
 - (b) a GHG coordination arrangement applies to the petroleum lease; and

- (c) any of the following take place for the petroleum lease—
 - (i) a renewal;
 - (ii) a transfer;
 - (iii) a subletting of the lease or a share in the petroleum lease.
- (2) It is a condition of the petroleum lease that its holder must continue to be a party to a GHG coordination arrangement for the lease while the GHG lease continues in force.

Division 3 Restriction on Minister’s power to amend petroleum lease if overlapping GHG tenure

392BI Interests of overlapping GHG tenure holder to be considered

If for a petroleum tenure, there is an overlapping GHG authority that is a GHG tenure, the petroleum tenure may be amended under section 848 only if the Minister has considered the interests of the GHG tenure holder.

Part 6 Additional provisions for development plans if overlapping GHG tenure

392BJ Operation of pt 6

This part imposes additional requirements for the following for which there is an overlapping GHG authority that is a GHG tenure—

- (a) a proposed initial development plan for a proposed initial development plan for a petroleum lease;
- (b) a proposed later development plan for a petroleum lease.

392BK Statement about interests of GHG tenure holder

The proposed plan or amendment must include a statement of how the effects on and the interests of the GHG tenure holder have or have not been considered having regard to the GHG assessment criteria.

392BL Consistency with GHG tenure's development plan and with any relevant coordination arrangement

- (1) To the extent the area of the GHG lease and the GHG tenure coincide or will coincide, the proposed plan must be consistent with any GHG coordination arrangement for that area.
- (2) Subsection (3) applies if the GHG tenure is a GHG lease.
- (3) The proposed plan must, to the extent the area of the petroleum lease and the GHG lease coincide, or will coincide, be consistent with the development plan for the GHG lease.

392BM Additional criteria for approval

In deciding whether to approve the proposed plan the Minister must consider the GHG assessment criteria.

Part 7 Additional provisions for safety management plans**392BN Grant of petroleum lease does not affect obligation to make plan**

- (1) This section applies if a GHG statement accompanies a petroleum lease application as required under this chapter.
- (2) The deciding of the application or the grant of the petroleum lease—
 - (a) does not affect the obligation to make a safety management plan for any operating plant in the petroleum lease's area; and

- (b) is not of itself evidence that a safety management plan or purported safety management plan for an operating plant on the petroleum lease's area complies with chapter 9.

392BO Requirements for consultation with particular GHG tenure holders

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person (an *operator*) proposes to be an operator of operating plant in the area of a petroleum tenure; and
 - (b) activities (*relevant activities*) carried out, or proposed to be carried out, at the plant may adversely affect the safe and efficient carrying out of GHG storage activities under an overlapping GHG authority for the petroleum tenure; and
 - (c) the overlapping GHG authority is a GHG tenure.
- (2) Before any operator may operate relevant operating plant, each operator must have made reasonable attempts to consult with the GHG tenure holder about relevant activities for the plant.
- (3) If there is more than 1 operator, the petroleum tenure holder may coordinate the consultation between the operators and the GHG tenure holder.
- (4) For subsection (2), an operator is taken to have made reasonable attempts to consult if—
 - (a) the operator gives the GHG tenure holder a copy of the relevant parts of the operator's proposed safety management plan concerning any relevant operating plant the operator proposes to operate for the relevant activities; and

Editor's note—

Section 392AG (Content requirements for GHG statement)

- (b) the GHG tenure holder has not within 30 days after the giving of the copy made any proposal to the operator about provisions for the plan.

- (5) An operator must before making or remaking a safety management plan for any relevant operating plant the operator operates or proposes to operate, have regard to any reasonable provisions for the plan proposed by the GHG tenure holder concerning relevant activities for the plant.
- (6) However, the obligation under subsection (5) applies only to the extent the provisions are commercially and technically feasible for the operator or any relevant petroleum tenure holder.
- (7) If an operator makes a safety management plan for relevant operating plant that includes provisions proposed by the GHG tenure holder, the operator must—
 - (a) give the GHG tenure holder a copy; and
 - (b) lodge at the relevant departmental office a notice stating any provisions proposed under subsection (5) and whether they were included in the plan.
- (8) In this section—

remaking, a safety management plan, includes an amendment or remaking of the plan of a type required under section 678.

392BP Application of provisions for resolving disputes about reasonableness of proposed provision

- (1) This section applies if a dispute exists between an operator to which section 392BO applies and a GHG tenure holder about the reasonableness of a provision proposed by the GHG tenure holder for the operator's proposed safety management plan.
- (2) Section 387, chapter 12 and schedule 1 apply to the dispute as if it were a dispute to which those provisions apply.

Editor's note—

Chapter 12 and schedule 1 (Reviews and appeals)

Chapter 4 Licences and related matters

Note—

For when a licence is required, see sections 802 and 803.

Part 1 Survey licences

Division 1 Key authorised activities

393 Purpose of div 1

The purpose of this division is to allow access to land for activities under section 394 that involve minimal impact on or disturbance of the land.¹⁶⁴

394 Surveying activities

- (1) A survey licence holder may enter the area of the licence to—
 - (a) investigate and survey its potential and suitability for the construction and operation of pipelines or petroleum facilities; and
 - (b) identify possible pipeline routes and pipeline or petroleum facility access routes.
- (2) The carrying out of activities mentioned in subsection (1) is subject to—
 - (a) section 6; and
 - (b) chapter 5; and
 - (c) the mandatory and other conditions of the licence; and

¹⁶⁴ For other authorised activities, see chapter 5, part 2, division 3 (Access to private land outside area of petroleum authority) and part 8 (General provisions for conditions and authorised activities).

- (d) any exclusion or restriction provided for in the licence on the carrying out of the activities.¹⁶⁵

Division 2 Obtaining survey licence

395 Applying for licence

- (1) A person may apply for a survey licence.
- (2) The application must—
 - (a) be in the approved form; and
 - (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging survey licence applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) state each of the following—
 - (i) the type of pipeline or petroleum facility the applicant proposes to construct and operate;
 - (ii) the proposed use of the pipeline or facility;
 - (iii) for a proposed pipeline—its terminal points;
 - (iv) the period for which the licence is sought;
 - (v) the extent and nature of activities to be carried out under the licence; and
 - (d) address the criteria mentioned in section 397; and
 - (e) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

165 Section 6 (Relationship with Mineral Resources Act)

Chapter 3 (Provisions for coal seam gas), part 4, division 2 (Restriction on authorised activities on coal mining lease or oil shale mining lease land)

Chapter 5 (Common petroleum authority provisions)

396 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may decide to grant or refuse the survey licence.
- (2) However, the licence can not be granted unless—
 - (a) the applicant is an eligible person; and
 - (b) a relevant environmental authority for the licence has been issued.
- (3) The licence must state its term and area.
- (4) The term must end no later than 1 year after the licence takes effect.
- (5) The licence may also state—
 - (a) conditions or other provisions of the licence not inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for survey licences; or
 - (b) a day for the licence to take effect.
- (6) However, the provisions of the licence may exclude or restrict the carrying out of an authorised activity for the licence.
- (7) If no day of effect is decided, the licence takes effect on the day it is granted.

Note—

Chapter 5 also imposes mandatory conditions on survey licences. In particular, see chapter 5, part 2, division 3 and chapter 5, part 8.

397 Criteria for decisions

The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to grant a survey licence or deciding its provisions include the applicant's—

- (a) financial and technical resources; and
- (b) ability to manage a survey to work out the suitability of the area of the licence for the pipeline or petroleum facility the applicant proposes to construct and operate.

Part 2 Pipeline licences¹⁶⁶

Division 1 Key authorised activities

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

398 Operation of div 1

- (1) This division provides for the key authorised activities for a pipeline licence.¹⁶⁷
- (2) The authorised activities may be carried out despite the rights of an owner or occupier of land on which they are exercised.
- (3) However, the carrying out of the authorised activities is subject to—
 - (a) subdivision 2; and
 - (b) chapter 5; and
 - (c) the mandatory and other conditions of the licence; and
 - (d) any exclusion or restriction provided for in the licence on the carrying out of the activities.

399 What is *pipeline land* for a pipeline licence

- (1) *Pipeline land*, for a pipeline licence, is land—
 - (a) that the licence holder owns; or
 - (b) over which the holder—
 - (i) holds an appropriate easement for the construction or operation of the pipeline; or

166 For what is a pipeline, see section 16 (What is a *pipeline*).

For when a pipeline licence is required for a pipeline, see section 802 (Restriction on pipeline construction or operation).

167 For other authorised activities, see chapter 5, part 2, division 3 (Access to private land outside area of petroleum authority) and part 8 (General provisions for conditions and authorised activities).

- (ii) has obtained the owner's written permission to enter to construct or operate the pipeline; or
 - (iii) holds a part 5 permission to enter to construct or operate the pipeline.
- (2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that—
 - (a) the granting of a pipeline licence does not, of itself, create an easement for the construction or operation of the pipeline; and
 - (b) the giving of a waiver of entry notice is not, of itself, a permission for subsection (1)(b)(ii).

Subdivision 2 General restriction on authorised activities

400 Restriction if there is an existing mining lease or GHG lease

If land in the area of a pipeline licence is also in the area of a mining lease or GHG lease and the lease was granted before the licence, an authorised activity for the licence may be carried out on the land only if—

- (a) the lease holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
- (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the agreement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) the agreement is still in force.

Subdivision 3 Pipeline construction and operation

401 Construction and operation of pipeline

- (1) The holder of a pipeline licence may construct or operate each pipeline the subject of the licence on—
 - (a) pipeline land for the licence; and
 - (b) subject to division 6,¹⁶⁸ public land in the area of the licence.¹⁶⁹
- (2) However, if native title exists in relation to land mentioned in subsection (1), the holder must have or hold an interest or permission mentioned in section 399(1)(b) for the native title rights and interests.
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the mere grant of the licence does not, of itself, authorise the construction or operation of a pipeline on other land in the area of the licence.

402 Licence may extend transportation right to other prescribed substances

- (1) A condition of a pipeline licence may extend its holder's right under section 401 to operate any pipeline in the area of the licence to include the transportation of either of the following substances—
 - (a) a GHG stream;
 - (b) a substance prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) However, a substance may be prescribed only if it is similar to petroleum and is suitable for transportation by the pipeline.
- (3) The condition may impose restrictions on the extended right.

168 Division 6 (Provisions for public land authorities)

See also section 802 (Restriction on pipeline construction or operation).

For who may exercise the rights for the holder, see section 563 (Who may carry out authorised activity for petroleum authority holder).

169 For who owns the pipeline, see chapter 5, part 6 (Ownership of pipelines, equipment and improvements).

403 Incidental activities

- (1) This section applies if, under section 401, a pipeline licence holder has the right to construct or operate a pipeline.
- (2) The holder may carry out an activity (an *incidental activity*) in the area of the licence if carrying out the activity is reasonably necessary for the construction or operation.¹⁷⁰

Examples of incidental activities—

- 1 constructing or operating plant or works, including, for example, bridges, powerlines, roads, trenches and tunnels
 - 2 constructing or using temporary structures or structures of an industrial or technical nature, including, for example, mobile and temporary camps
 - 3 removing vegetation for, or for the safety of, the pipeline construction or operation
- (3) However, constructing or using a structure, other than a temporary structure, for office or residential accommodation is not an incidental activity.

Note—

For development generally, see the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, chapter 6 (Integrated development assessment system (IDAS)).

Division 2 Availability of pipeline licences**404 Licence types—area or point to point**

- (1) A pipeline licence may be granted—
 - (a) over a stated area (an *area pipeline licence*); or
 - (b) for a pipeline from one stated point or points to another point or points (a *point-to-point pipeline licence*).
- (2) However, an area pipeline licence can not be granted for a transmission pipeline.

¹⁷⁰ See also chapter 5 (Common petroleum authority provisions) and section 20 (What are the *conditions* of a petroleum authority).

405 Pipeline licence can not be granted for distribution pipeline

A pipeline licence under this Act can not be granted for a distribution pipeline.

406 Pipeline licence may be granted over any land

A pipeline licence may be granted over any land, including land in the area of another petroleum authority.

Division 3 Obtaining pipeline licence**Subdivision 1 Applying for pipeline licence****407 Who may apply and multiple licence applications**

- (1) A person may apply for a pipeline licence.
- (2) However, a person can not, in the same application, apply for—
 - (a) a point-to-point pipeline licence for more than 1 point-to-point pipeline; or
 - (b) an area pipeline licence for more than 1 area; or
 - (c) a point-to-point pipeline licence and an area pipeline licence.

409 Requirements for making application

The application must—

- (a) be in the approved form; and
- (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging pipeline licence applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or

- (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) state each of the following (the *application details*)—
 - (i) a description of the land in the area of the licence;
 - (ii) the type and purpose of each pipeline to be the subject of the licence and each substance proposed to be transported through it;
 - (iii) for a point-to-point pipeline licence—
 - (A) the pipeline’s terminal points; and
 - (B) if the pipeline has not already been constructed—a proposed day for the completion of the construction of the pipeline;
 - (iv) for an area pipeline licence other than to the extent the application is for existing pipelines—a proposed day for the completion of the construction of each initial pipeline mentioned in the licence;
 - (v) the extent and nature of activities proposed to be carried out under the licence; and
- (d) include a statement about how and when the applicant proposes to consult with, and keep informed, owners and occupiers of—
 - (i) private or public land on which the activities are proposed to be carried out; or
 - (ii) access land for the proposed licence;¹⁷¹ and
- (e) if the area of the licence is, or is included in, the area of another petroleum authority or a mining interest—identify possible impacts of authorised activities under the licence on authorised activities under the other petroleum authority or on mining under the mining interest; and
- (f) address the criteria mentioned in section 415(a); and

171 See section 418 (Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers).

- (g) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

409A Notice of application to relevant local government

- (1) This section does not apply if the application is for an existing pipeline.
- (2) The applicant must, within 10 business days after making the application, give each relevant local government a notice stating the application details under section 409(c) for the proposed application.
- (3) If subsection (2) is not complied with, the application lapses.
- (4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the lapsing of the application under subsection (3) does not of itself prevent the former applicant making another pipeline licence application.
- (5) In this section—

relevant local government means a local government in whose local government area pipelines are proposed to be constructed under the licence.

Subdivision 2 Deciding pipeline licence application

410 Deciding whether to grant licence

- (1) The Minister may—
 - (a) subject to sections 411 and 412A, grant the applicant a pipeline licence only if—
 - (i) the applicant is an eligible person; and
 - (ii) a relevant environmental authority for the licence has been issued;¹⁷² and
 - (b) before granting the licence, require the applicant to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—

¹⁷² See also section 415 (Criteria for decisions).

- (i) pay the licence fee for the first year of the proposed licence;
 - (ii) give, under section 488, security for the licence.
- (2) If the applicant does not comply with a requirement under subsection (1), the Minister may refuse to grant the licence.

411 Public notice requirement

- (1) The Minister must not grant the applicant a pipeline licence unless—
 - (a) the notice complying with subsection (2)(a) has been published as required under subsection (2)(b); and
 - (b) the applicant has given the chief executive evidence of the publication; and
 - (c) the Minister has considered any submissions in response to the notice lodged within the period stated in the notice.
- (2) For subsection (1)(a), the notice must—
 - (a) state each of the following—
 - (i) that a pipeline licence application has been made;
 - (ii) the applicant's name;
 - (iii) the area proposed for the licence;
 - (iv) where further details about the application can be obtained;
 - (v) a period of at least 30 business days during which anyone may lodge submissions about the application;
 - (vi) where submissions must be lodged; and
 - (b) be published in a newspaper circulating throughout the State or, if the proposed licence is an area pipeline licence, generally in the area.
- (3) The applicant must bear the costs of the publication.

412 Provisions of licence

- (1) Each pipeline licence must state—
 - (a) its term and area;¹⁷³ and
 - (b) for a point-to-point pipeline licence—the day for completion of the construction of the pipeline, if it has not already been constructed; and
 - (c) for an area pipeline licence—the day for completion of the construction of each initial pipeline to be the subject of the licence, if they have not already been constructed.
- (2) Subject to section 413, the licence may also state—
 - (a) conditions or other provisions of the licence, other than conditions or provisions that are—
 - (i) inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for pipeline licences;¹⁷⁴ or
 - (ii) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the licence; and
 - (b) review days for the licence;¹⁷⁵ and
 - (c) the day it takes effect.
- (3) However, the provisions of the licence may exclude or restrict the carrying out of an authorised activity for the licence.
- (4) If no day of effect is stated, the licence takes effect on the day it is granted.
- (5) This section applies subject to section 412A.

173 See also section 414 (Provision for reduction of area of licence).

174 For mandatory conditions, see division 4 (Key mandatory conditions for pipeline licences) and chapter 5, part 8 (General provisions for conditions and authorised activities).

175 For the consequences of a pipeline licence having review days, see division 7 (Ministerial review of pipeline licence conditions).

412A Provisions about grant and conditions of licence for significant project

- (1) This section applies if a pipeline licence or proposed pipeline licence is for a significant project.
- (2) The Minister must not grant the licence until the Minister has been given the Coordinator-General's report for the project.
- (3) Any Coordinator-General's conditions for the licence must be stated in the licence.
- (4) Any other condition of the licence stated under section 412 must not be inconsistent with the Coordinator-General's conditions.
- (5) If a mandatory condition for pipeline licences conflicts with any of the Coordinator-General's conditions, the Coordinator-General's condition prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

413 Restriction on imposing takeover condition

- (1) A pipeline licence may include a condition (a *takeover condition*) that takeover action may be taken on grounds, or in circumstances, stated in the licence only if—
 - (a) the licence is a point-to-point pipeline licence; and
 - (b) the Minister is satisfied—
 - (i) an appropriate competitive tender process has been carried out to select the developer for the pipeline; and
 - (ii) a contract to which the State and the applicant are parties provides for the imposition of the condition.
- (2) In this section—

takeover action means doing 1 or more of the following—

 - (a) cancelling the licence, other than by way of noncompliance action;
 - (b) transferring the pipeline to the State;
 - (c) taking over the construction of the pipeline;

- (d) taking over the operation of the pipeline;
- (e) transferring to the State the licence holder's interest in pipeline land for the pipeline;
- (f) transferring 1 or more of the following to an entity other than the State—
 - (i) the pipeline;
 - (ii) the licence;
 - (iii) the licence holder's interest in pipeline land for the pipeline.

414 Provision for reduction of area of licence

A pipeline licence may provide that stated land ceases to be in the area of the licence if—

- (a) construction of a stated pipeline is completed; and
- (b) the land has not become pipeline land for the licence.

415 Criteria for decisions

The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to grant a pipeline licence or deciding its provisions include each of the following—

- (a) the applicant's—
 - (i) financial and technical resources; and
 - (ii) ability to competently and safely manage any construction and the operation of pipelines the subject of the licence;
- (b) the appropriateness of each pipeline for its purpose as stated in the application;
- (c) for an area pipeline licence—the minimum area required for pipelines the subject of the licence;
- (d) if the area of the licence is, or is included in, the area of another petroleum authority or a mining interest—possible impacts of authorised activities under the licence on authorised activities under the other

petroleum authority or on mining under the mining interest;

- (e) whether the proposed licence is in the public interest.

416 Information notice about refusal

On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

Division 4 Key mandatory conditions for pipeline licences

417 Operation of div 4

This division provides for particular mandatory conditions for pipeline licences.

Notes—

- 1 Chapter 5 also provides for mandatory conditions for pipeline licences.
- 2 For what is a mandatory condition, see section 20(2).

418 Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers

- (1) A pipeline licence holder must consult, or use reasonable endeavours to consult, with each owner and occupier of access land for the licence and other private or public land, other than any of the following land, on which authorised activities for the licence are, or are likely to be, carried out—
 - (a) land that the licence holder owns;
 - (b) land over which the licence holder holds an appropriate easement for the construction or operation of the pipeline.
- (2) The consultation must be about the carrying out of authorised activities for the licence (including, for example, crossing access land for the licence) to the extent they relate to the owners and occupiers.

- (3) The consultation must be carried out in the way and at the times—
 - (a) provided for in the licence; or
 - (b) if the licence does not provide for how the consultation must be carried out—approved by the Minister.
- (4) This section does not limit chapter 5, part 2 or 3.
- (5) A failure to comply with this section does not prevent authorised activities for the licence from being carried out.

419 Obligation to construct pipeline

- (1) Subject to sections 401 and 419A, a pipeline licence holder must complete construction of the pipeline the subject of the licence on or before any completion day for the construction stated in the licence.
- (2) However, if the licence is an area pipeline licence, subsection (1) only applies for each initial pipeline mentioned in the licence.

419A Notice to chief inspector before construction starts

- (1) A pipeline licence holder must give the chief inspector notice of the holder's intention to start construction of the pipeline the subject of the licence at least 20 business days before the construction starts.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

- (2) However, if the licence is an area pipeline licence, subsection (1) only applies for each initial pipeline mentioned in the licence.
- (3) An applicant for a pipeline licence may give a notice under subsection (1).
- (4) The day stated for construction to start may be stated as the day the applicant becomes the holder of the licence.

420 Notice of completion of pipeline

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the construction of a pipeline under an area pipeline licence is completed; or
 - (b) a pipeline the subject of a point-to-point pipeline licence is completed.
- (2) The licence holder must, within the relevant period, lodge a notice of completion of the pipeline at the following office—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice of completion, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) The notice must—
 - (a) state the day the pipeline was completed; and
 - (b) describe—
 - (i) the pipeline land for the licence; and
 - (ii) any public land in the area of the licence the holder reasonably requires to operate the pipeline; and
 - (c) include a diagram of the pipeline, as constructed or completed, that gives enough information to allow the pipeline to be located, including, for example, its depth of burial; and
 - (d) be accompanied by the handling fee to record the information, as prescribed under a regulation.¹⁷⁶
- (4) In this section—

relevant period means the period that ends—

 - (a) for a pipeline the subject of a point-to-point pipeline licence—6 months after its completion; or
 - (b) for a pipeline under an area pipeline licence—40 business days after its completion.

¹⁷⁶ See also division 5 (Amendment of point-to-point pipeline licences after pipeline completed).

421 Notice to public road authority of pipeline constructed on public road

If a pipeline licence holder constructs a pipeline on a public road, the holder must, within 6 months after completing the pipeline—

- (a) give the public road authority for the road accurate details of the location of the pipeline; and
- (b) keep complete and accurate records of the location of the pipeline.

422 Obligations in operating pipeline

(1) The holder of a pipeline licence must, after the pipeline has been constructed, operate it in a way that ensures its continuing capacity to safely and reliably transport—

- (a) petroleum or fuel gas; and
- (b) if, under section 402, the right to operate the pipeline is extended to include another substance—the other substance.

(2) It is a condition of a pipeline licence that the pipeline not remain unused for a continuous period of more than 3 years, unless the Minister otherwise agrees.¹⁷⁷

423 Annual licence fee

- (1) A pipeline licence holder must pay the State an annual licence fee as prescribed under a regulation.¹⁷⁸
- (2) The fee must be paid in the way, and on or before the day, prescribed under a regulation.

¹⁷⁷ See also sections 559 (Obligation to decommission pipelines) and 804 (Duty to avoid interference in carrying out authorised activities).

¹⁷⁸ See also section 588 (Interest on amounts owing to the State other than for petroleum royalty).

424 Civil penalty for nonpayment of annual licence fee

- (1) If a pipeline licence holder does not pay an annual licence fee as required under section 423, the holder must also pay the State a civil penalty.
- (2) The amount of the penalty is 15% of the fee.
- (3) The penalty—
 - (a) must be paid on the day after the last day for payment of the fee; and
 - (b) is still payable even if the holder later pays the fee.

Division 5 Amendment of point-to-point pipeline licences after pipeline completed**425 Power to amend**

If the holder of a point-to-point pipeline licence gives a notice under section 420, the Minister may amend the licence to reduce its area to—

- (a) the pipeline land for the licence; and
- (b) any public land in the area of the licence stated in the notice.

Division 6 Provisions for public land authorities**Subdivision 1 Public roads****426 Public road authority's obligations in aligning pipeline on road**

If, under section 527, a public road authority imposes a condition about an alignment for a pipeline on, or proposed to be constructed on, a public road the alignment must be—

- (a) situated to ensure reasonable protection for the pipeline; and
- (b) if practicable, on the footpath or verge of the road.

427 Requirement to consult if construction affects existing pipeline

- (1) This section applies if a public road authority proposes to construct or change a public road in a way that is likely to affect the location, operation or safety of a pipeline.
- (2) The authority must give the relevant pipeline licence holder a notice stating—
 - (a) details of the proposed road or proposed change; and
 - (b) that the holder may, within a stated period, lodge submissions to the authority about the proposal at the office of the authority stated in the notice.
- (3) The stated period must not end before 30 business days after the notice is given.
- (4) Before deciding to implement the proposal, the authority must consider any submissions lodged by the holder within the stated period.
- (5) If the authority decides to implement the proposal, it must give the holder notice of the decision.

428 Costs of pipeline works caused by public road construction

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a public road authority constructs, or changes, a public road; and
 - (b) the road, or the road as changed, affects the safety, location or operation of a pipeline constructed or operated, or proposed to be constructed or operated; and
 - (c) because of the effects, it is necessary for the holder of the pipeline licence for the pipeline to carry out works relating to the pipeline.

- (2) The holder must bear the holder's own costs of carrying out the works if—
 - (a) the road existed before the pipeline was constructed; or
 - (b) the road is constructed on an area that was dedicated to public use as a road before the pipeline was constructed.
- (3) Otherwise, the holder may recover from the authority as a debt any reasonable costs the holder incurs in carrying out the works.

429 Public road authority's obligation to give holder information

- (1) This section applies if a pipeline licence holder asks a public road authority for a public road in the area of the licence for information about—
 - (a) the permanent level of the road; or
 - (b) the alignment allocated by the authority for a pipeline the subject of the licence.
- (2) The authority must comply with the request within 20 business days after it is made.
- (3) The information given must be accurate and as complete as possible.

430 Consequence of not giving information

If a public road authority does not comply with a request under section 429 about a public road, the pipeline licence holder that made the request may decide a reasonable permanent level and alignment for the road, based on—

- (a) information available to the holder; and
- (b) any standards prescribed under section 557(1)(b) for constructing pipelines on roads.

Subdivision 2 Works directions

431 Power to give works directions

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a pipeline licence holder proposes to construct, has constructed, or is constructing, a pipeline on or through public land; and
 - (b) the public land authority for the land has, under a public land authority approval, imposed a condition relating to the construction;¹⁷⁹ and
 - (c) the authority reasonably considers works should be carried out to ensure compliance with the condition.
- (2) The authority, may give the holder a notice (a *works direction*) directing the holder to carry out stated works to comply with the condition within a stated reasonable period.
- (3) The works direction must—
 - (a) identify the relevant condition; and
 - (b) include, or be accompanied by, an information notice about the decision to make the works direction.
- (4) Works stated in a works direction must comply with any standard prescribed under a regulation for carrying out the works to the extent the standard is relevant to the works.

432 Compliance with works direction

- (1) A pipeline licence holder to whom a works direction has been given must, within the period stated in it, comply with the direction to the reasonable satisfaction of the public land authority that gave the direction.
- (2) If the holder does not comply with subsection (1) the authority may ensure the works the subject of the direction are carried out.

¹⁷⁹ See sections 526 (Requirement for entry notice to carry out authorised activities) and 527 (Conditions public land authority may impose).

- (3) The authority may recover from the holder as a debt any reasonable costs the authority incurs in ensuring the works are carried out.

Division 7 Ministerial review of pipeline licence conditions

433 Application of div 7

This division applies only if a pipeline licence states a review day.

434 Power to review licence

- (1) The Minister may, by complying with sections 435 and 436, amend the pipeline licence if satisfied—
- (a) the conditions of the licence—
 - (i) are no longer appropriate; or
 - (ii) do not make provision, or sufficient provision, about a matter; and
 - (b) the amendment is necessary or desirable.
- (2) However, the licence can not be amended in a way that is inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for pipeline licences.
- (3) This section does not limit the power to amend the licence under another provision of this Act.¹⁸⁰

435 Notice of proposed amendment

- (1) The Minister must give the pipeline licence holder a notice stating each of the following—
- (a) the proposed amendment;

¹⁸⁰ See, for example, sections 790 (Types of noncompliance action that may be taken) and 848 (Power to correct or amend).

- (b) the conditions of the licence that the Minister considers are no longer appropriate or the matter about which the conditions do not make provision, or sufficient provision;
 - (c) reasons why the Minister considers the amendment to be necessary or desirable;
 - (d) that the holder may, within a stated reasonable period, lodge submissions about the proposed amendment at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (2) The stated period must not end before 20 business days after the notice is given.

436 Decision on proposed amendment

- (1) Before deciding the proposed amendment, any submissions lodged within the period stated in the notice given under section 435 must be considered.
- (2) If a decision is made not to make the proposed amendment, the holder must be given notice of the decision.
- (3) If, after considering the submissions, the Minister is still satisfied under section 434(1), the amendment may be made.
- (4) On deciding to make the amendment, the holder must be given an information notice about the decision.
- (5) The amendment takes effect on the end of the appeal period for the decision, or if a later day of effect stated in the notice, on the later day.¹⁸¹

181 See sections 824 (Period to appeal) and 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

Division 8 Miscellaneous provisions

437 Limitation of transmission pipeline licence holder's liability

- (1) This section applies if a person incurs a cost, damage or loss because of—
 - (a) the partial or total failure of a pipeline licence holder to transport petroleum or fuel gas through a transmission pipeline; or
 - (b) fuel gas not of the prescribed quality transported through a transmission pipeline the subject of a pipeline licence.
- (2) However, this section does not apply to the extent to which liability for the cost, damage or loss is, under a contract, agreed between the person and the licence holder.
- (3) The licence holder is not civilly liable for the cost, damage or loss if—
 - (a) the failure, or the fuel gas being not of the prescribed quality, was caused by a circumstance beyond the holder's control; and
 - (b) the holder's operation of the pipeline—
 - (i) complied with this Act and the conditions of the licence; and
 - (ii) was carried out in good faith and without negligence.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not limit section 7(3).

Part 3 **Petroleum facility licences**¹⁸²

Division 1 **Key authorised activities**

Subdivision 1 **Preliminary**

438 Operation of div 1

- (1) This division provides for the key authorised activities for a petroleum facility licence.¹⁸³
- (2) The authorised activities may be carried out despite the rights of an owner or occupier of land on which they are exercised.¹⁸⁴
- (3) However, the carrying out of the authorised activities is subject to—
 - (a) subdivision 2; and
 - (b) chapter 5; and
 - (c) the mandatory and other conditions of the licence; and
 - (d) any exclusion or restriction provided for in the licence on the carrying out of the activities.

439 What is *petroleum facility land* for a petroleum facility licence

- (1) *Petroleum facility land*, for a petroleum facility licence, is land—

182 For what is a petroleum facility, see section 17 (What is a *petroleum facility*).

For when a licence is required for a petroleum facility, see section 803 (Restriction on petroleum facility construction or operation).

183 For other authorised activities, see chapter 5, part 2, division 3 (Access to private land outside area of petroleum authority) and part 8 (General provisions for conditions and authorised activities).

184 See however the restrictions and requirements under chapter 5, parts 2 (Private land), 3 (Public land) and 5 (Compensation and negotiated access) for carrying out of the activities.

- (a) that the licence holder owns; or
- (b) over which the holder—
 - (i) holds an appropriate easement for the construction or operation of the petroleum facility; or
 - (ii) has obtained the owner's written permission to enter to construct or operate the petroleum facility; or
 - (iii) holds a part 5 permission to enter to construct or operate the petroleum facility.
- (2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that—
 - (a) the granting of a petroleum facility licence does not, of itself, create an easement for the construction or operation of the petroleum facility; and
 - (b) the giving of a waiver of entry notice is not, of itself, a permission for subsection (1)(b)(ii).

Subdivision 2 General restriction on authorised activities

440 Restriction if there is an existing mining lease

If land in the area of a petroleum facility licence is also in the area of a mining lease and the mining lease was granted before the licence, an authorised activity for the licence may be carried out on the land only if—

- (a) the mining lease holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
- (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the agreement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) the agreement is still in force.

Subdivision 3 Petroleum facility construction and operation

441 Construction and operation of petroleum facility

- (1) The holder of a petroleum facility licence may, on the petroleum facility land for the licence, construct or operate the petroleum facility.
- (2) However, if native title exists in relation to the petroleum facility land, the holder must have or hold an interest or permission mentioned in section 439(1)(b) for the native title rights and interests.
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the mere grant of the licence does not, of itself, authorise the construction or operation of the petroleum facility on other land in the area of the licence.

442 Incidental activities

- (1) This section applies if, under section 441, a petroleum facility licence holder has the right to construct or operate a petroleum facility.
- (2) The holder may carry out an activity (an *incidental activity*) in the area of the licence if carrying out the activity is reasonably necessary for the construction or operation.¹⁸⁵

Examples of incidental activities—

- 1 constructing or operating plant or works, including, for example, bridges, powerlines, roads, trenches and tunnels
 - 2 constructing or using temporary structures or structures of an industrial or technical nature, including, for example, mobile and temporary camps
 - 3 removing vegetation for, or for the safety of, the construction or operation of the petroleum facility
- (3) However, constructing or using a structure, other than a temporary structure, for office or residential accommodation is not an incidental activity.

¹⁸⁵ See also chapter 5 (Common petroleum authority provisions) and section 20 (What are the *conditions* of a petroleum authority).

Note—

For development generally, see the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, chapter 6 (Integrated development assessment system (IDAS)).

Division 2 Obtaining petroleum facility licence

Subdivision 1 Applying for petroleum facility licence

443 Who may apply

- (1) A person may apply for a petroleum facility licence for a petroleum facility or proposed petroleum facility.
- (2) However, if the facility is partly on the area of a petroleum lease and partly on other land, a person can not apply for a petroleum facility licence in relation to the facility unless the application is for the whole of the facility.
- (3) In this section—

proposed petroleum facility includes a facility for the distillation, processing, refining, storage or transport of petroleum authorised under a pipeline licence held by the applicant for which facility the applicant wishes to obtain a petroleum facility licence.

445 Requirements for making application

The application must—

- (a) be in the approved form; and
- (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging petroleum facility licence applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and

- (c) state each of the following—
 - (i) the petroleum facility, or proposed petroleum facility, the subject of the application;
 - (ii) a description of the proposed petroleum facility land for the licence;
 - (iii) the precise location of the facility, or proposed petroleum facility on the land;
 - (iv) the purpose of the facility;
 - (v) for a proposed facility—a proposed day for the completion of the construction of the facility;
 - (vi) the extent and nature of activities proposed to be carried out under the licence; and
- (d) if the area of the licence is, or is included in, the area of another petroleum authority or a mining interest—identify possible impacts of authorised activities under the licence on authorised activities under the other petroleum authority or on mining under the mining interest; and
- (e) include a statement about how and when the applicant proposes to consult with, and keep informed, owners and occupiers of—
 - (i) private or public land on which the activities are proposed to be carried out; or
 - (ii) access land for the proposed licence;¹⁸⁶ and
- (f) address the criteria mentioned in section 448(a); and
- (g) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

445A Notice of application to relevant local government

- (1) The applicant must, within 10 business days after making the application, give each relevant local government a notice stating the application details under section 445(c) for the proposed application.

¹⁸⁶ See section 451 (Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers).

- (2) If subsection (1) is not complied with, the application lapses.
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the lapsing of the application under subsection (2) does not of itself prevent the former applicant making another petroleum facility licence application.
- (4) In this section—
relevant local government means a local government in whose local government area the petroleum facility is proposed to be constructed under the licence.

Subdivision 2 Deciding petroleum facility licence application

446 Deciding whether to grant licence

- (1) The Minister may—
 - (a) subject to section 447A, decide to grant the applicant a petroleum facility licence only if—
 - (i) the applicant is an eligible person; and
 - (ii) a relevant environmental authority for the licence has been issued;¹⁸⁷ and
 - (b) before granting the licence, require the applicant to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—
 - (i) pay the licence fee for the first year of the proposed licence;
 - (ii) give, under section 488, security for the licence.
- (2) If the applicant does not comply with a requirement under subsection (1), the Minister may refuse to grant the licence.

447 Provisions of licence

- (1) Each petroleum facility licence must state—

¹⁸⁷ See also section 448 (Criteria for decisions).

- (a) its term and area; and
 - (b) if the facility the subject of the licence has not already been constructed—a day by which its holder must complete construction of the facility.
- (2) The term must end no later than 30 years after the licence takes effect.
 - (3) The area of the licence must be the area that the Minister considers is the minimum area needed to adequately carry out the purpose of the petroleum facility or proposed petroleum facility.
 - (4) The licence may also state—
 - (a) conditions or other provisions of the licence, other than conditions or provisions that are—
 - (i) inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for petroleum facility licences;¹⁸⁸ or
 - (ii) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the licence; and
 - (b) the day it takes effect.
 - (5) However, the provisions of the licence may exclude or restrict the carrying out of an authorised activity for the licence.
 - (6) If no day of effect is stated, the licence takes effect on the day it is granted.
 - (7) This section applies subject to section 447A.

447A Provisions about grant and conditions of licence for significant project

- (1) This section applies if a petroleum facility licence or proposed petroleum facility licence is for a significant project.
- (2) The Minister must not grant the licence until the Minister has been given the Coordinator-General's report for the project.

¹⁸⁸ For mandatory conditions, see division 3 (Key mandatory conditions for petroleum facility licences) and chapter 5, part 8 (General provisions for conditions and authorised activities).

- (3) Any Coordinator-General's conditions for the licence must be stated in the licence.
- (4) Any other condition of the licence stated under section 447 must not be inconsistent with the Coordinator-General's conditions.
- (5) If a mandatory condition for petroleum facility licences conflicts with any of the Coordinator-General's conditions, the Coordinator-General's condition prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

448 Criteria for decisions

The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to grant a petroleum facility licence or deciding its provisions include each of the following—

- (a) the applicant's—
 - (i) financial and technical resources; and
 - (ii) ability to competently and safely manage the construction and operation of the proposed petroleum facility;
- (b) for a proposed petroleum facility, the appropriateness of its—
 - (i) location on the proposed petroleum facility land; and
 - (ii) configuration, design and construction methods;
- (c) if the area of the licence is, or is included in, the area of another petroleum authority or a mining interest—any possible impacts of authorised activities under the licence on authorised activities under the other petroleum authority or on mining under the mining interest;
- (d) the purpose of the facility;
- (e) whether the proposed licence is in the public interest.

448A Provision for facility already the subject of a pipeline licence

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the application is granted; and
 - (b) the application was for a facility for the distillation, processing, refining, storage or transport of petroleum authorised under a pipeline licence held by the applicant.
- (2) Despite section 16(2), the facility ceases to be a part of any pipeline the subject of the pipeline licence.
- (3) The operation of the facility ceases to be an authorised activity for the pipeline licence.

449 Information notice about refusal

On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

Division 3 Key mandatory conditions for petroleum facility licences**450 Operation of div 3**

This division provides for particular mandatory conditions for petroleum facility licences.

Notes—

- 1 Chapter 5 also provides for mandatory conditions for petroleum facility licences.
- 2 For what is a mandatory condition, see section 20(2).

451 Obligation to consult with particular owners and occupiers

- (1) A petroleum facility licence holder must consult, or use reasonable endeavours to consult, with each owner and occupier of access land for the licence and other private or public land, other than any of the following land, on which

authorised activities for the licence are, or are likely to be, carried out—

- (a) land that the licence holder owns;
 - (b) land over which the licence holder holds an appropriate easement for the construction or operation of the petroleum facility.
- (2) The consultation must be about the carrying out of authorised activities for the licence (including, for example, crossing access land for the licence) to the extent they relate to the owners and occupiers.
- (3) The consultation must be carried out in the way and at the times—
- (a) provided for in the licence; or
 - (b) if the licence does not provide for how the consultation must be carried out—approved by the Minister.
- (4) This section does not limit chapter 5, part 2 or 3.
- (5) A failure to comply with this section does not prevent authorised activities for the licence from being carried out.

452 Obligation to construct facility

A petroleum facility licence holder must complete construction of the petroleum facility the subject of the licence on or before any completion day for the construction stated in the licence.

453 Obligation to operate facility

The holder of a petroleum facility licence must, after the facility has been constructed, operate it in a way that ensures the continuing of the facility for the purpose for which it is licensed.

454 Annual licence fee

- (1) A petroleum facility licence holder must pay the State an annual licence fee as prescribed under a regulation.

- (2) The fee must be paid in the way, and on or before the day, prescribed under a regulation.¹⁸⁹

455 Civil penalty for nonpayment of annual licence fee

- (1) If a petroleum facility licence holder does not pay an annual licence fee as required under section 454, the holder must also pay the State a civil penalty.
- (2) The amount of the penalty is 15% of the fee.
- (3) The penalty—
 - (a) must be paid on the day after the last day for payment of the fee; and
 - (b) is still payable even if the holder later pays the fee.

Part 4 Taking land for pipelines and petroleum facilities

456 State's power to take land

- (1) This section applies subject to sections 457 and 458.
- (2) The State may take land, or an interest in land for—
 - (a) the carrying out of authorised activities for a licence or proposed licence; or
 - (b) petroleum processing, storage or transport, including, for example, to construct and operate a pipeline.
- (3) The power to take land may be exercised—
 - (a) for the State by the Minister; and
 - (b) whether or not the State proposes to transfer the land, or an interest in the land, to someone else.

¹⁸⁹ See also section 588 (Interest on amounts owing to the State other than for petroleum royalty).

- (4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that if the land is held from the State under the *Land Act 1994* or another Act, the power is as well as, and is not limited by, any power under the *Land Act 1994* or other Act to forfeit or take the land or the interest under which it is held.
- (5) In this section—
licence does not include a survey licence.

457 Restrictions on power to take land

- (1) The State may take land under section 456 only if the Minister is satisfied—
 - (a) the area of the land is the minimum area needed to adequately carry out the activities for which it is taken; and
 - (b) other land is not more appropriate for carrying out the activities; and
 - (c) the taking of the land is in the public interest.
- (2) Also, the State may take land for authorised activities for a petroleum facility licence, or proposed petroleum facility licence, for a facility to be used in connection with a pipeline or proposed pipeline only if the Minister is satisfied the licence holder, or proposed licence holder, has decided the site of the pipeline.

458 Process for taking land

- (1) The *Acquisition of Land Act 1967* (the *ALA*) applies¹⁹⁰ for taking land under section 456 and paying compensation for land taken as if—
 - (a) the taking were a taking under that Act by a constructing authority; and
 - (b) the reference in the ALA, section 5(1)(c) to the taking of land for a purpose stated in the schedule to that Act were

¹⁹⁰ However, for land where native title exists, see sections 8 (Native title) and 855 (Application of provisions).

- a reference to the taking of land for a purpose mentioned in section 456(2); and
- (c) the constructing authority were the State; and
 - (d) the reference in the ALA, section 9 to the Minister is a reference to the Minister administering this Act.
- (2) Taking land under section 456 does not become a taking of land under the ALA.
- (3) In assessing the compensation, allowance can not be made for the value of petroleum known or supposed to be on or under, or produced from, the land.¹⁹¹

459 Recovery of costs and compensation from holder or proposed holder

- (1) This section applies if the State incurs, or becomes liable to pay—
- (a) costs relating to—
 - (i) the taking under section 456(2) of land for the carrying out of authorised activities for a licence or proposed licence; or
 - (ii) the transfer of the land to the relevant person; or
 - (iii) the negotiation of the transfer, or any contract relating to the transfer; or
 - (b) assessed compensation for the taking; or
 - (c) costs relating to the compensation or its assessment; or
 - (d) interest on the compensation or costs.
- (2) The State may recover from the relevant person as a debt—
- (a) the reasonable amount of the costs; and
 - (b) the amount of the assessed compensation and the interest.
- (3) In this section—
- relevant person*** means—

¹⁹¹ See also section 462 (Disposal of land taken by State).

- (a) relevant licence holder; or
- (b) if the taking was for authorised activities for a proposed licence—the person who proposed to obtain the licence.

460 Power to enter land proposed to be taken

- (1) The Minister may authorise a person (the *authorised person*) to enter land proposed to be taken under section 456 to report to the Minister about the suitability of the land for the purpose for which it is proposed to be taken.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies even if the process for taking the land has not started.
- (3) The authorisation—
 - (a) must be written; and
 - (b) may be given on conditions the Minister considers appropriate.
- (4) Subject to section 461, the authorised person may enter the land and carry out activities necessary or convenient for the report.
- (5) However, the power under this section does not include the power to enter a structure, or a part of a structure, used for residential purposes without the consent of the occupier of the structure or part of the structure.

461 Requirements for entry to land proposed to be taken

- (1) An authorised person under section 460 may enter land proposed to be taken only if the following person is given notice of the proposed entry at least 10 business days before the proposed entry—
 - (a) if the land has an occupier—any occupier of the land;
 - (b) if the land does not have an occupier—its owner.
- (2) The notice must—
 - (a) identify the authorised person; and
 - (b) describe the land; and
 - (c) state—

- (i) that the authorised person has, under this section, been authorised to enter the land; and
 - (ii) the purpose of the entry; and
 - (iii) the period of the entry.
- (3) The chief executive may approve the giving of the notice by publishing it in a stated way.
- (4) The chief executive may give the approval only if satisfied the publication is reasonably likely to adequately inform the person to whom the notice is required to be given of the proposed entry.
- (5) If the authorised person intends to enter the land and any occupier of the land is present at the land, the person also must show, or make a reasonable attempt to show, the occupier the person's authorisation under this section.

462 Disposal of land taken by State

- (1) The State may transfer land taken under section 456 to any one else, including, for example, the holder or proposed holder of a licence for the land.
- (2) The *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*, section 41, applies to land taken under section 456.
- (3) However, subsection (2) only applies if the State has not offered, or proposed to offer, the land for sale to any holder, or proposed holder, of a licence the area of which includes the land.

Part 5 **Permission to enter land to exercise rights under a pipeline or petroleum facility licence**

Division 1 **Applying for and obtaining permission**

463 **Applying for permission**

- (1) A person who holds, or who has applied for, a pipeline licence may apply for permission (a *part 5 permission*) to enter the area, or proposed area, of the licence to construct or operate a pipeline the subject of the licence or proposed licence.
- (2) A person who holds, or who has applied for, a petroleum facility licence may apply for permission (also a *part 5 permission*) to enter the area, or proposed area, of the licence to construct or operate the petroleum facility the subject of the licence or proposed licence.

464 **Requirements for making application**

An application for a part 5 permission must—

- (a) be in the approved form; and
- (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging applications for part 5 permissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation; and
- (d) state the steps the applicant has taken to—
 - (i) become the owner of the land; or

- (ii) be granted an appropriate easement to construct or operate the pipeline or petroleum facility; or
- (iii) obtain the permission of the owner of the land to enter the land to construct or operate the pipeline or petroleum facility.¹⁹²

465 Notice to owners about application

- (1) The applicant must give each owner of the land notice (a *consultation notice*) of the application.
- (2) The consultation notice must describe the land and state—
 - (a) the purpose of the proposed part 5 permission; and
 - (b) any conditions the applicant proposes for the part 5 permission; and
 - (c) a period (the *consultation period*) during which—
 - (i) the applicant will consult with each owner about the proposed permission and the conditions; and
 - (ii) an owner may lodge submissions about the proposed part 5 permission and the conditions at—
 - (A) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (B) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (A)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) The consultation period must end at least 20 business days after each owner has been given the consultation notice.
- (4) The period may be extended by agreement between the applicant for the part 5 permission and the owner.

466 Change in ownership during consultation period

- (1) This section applies if—

¹⁹² See sections 401 (Construction and operation of pipeline) and 441 (Construction and operation of petroleum facility).

- (a) an owner of the land (the *former owner*) has been given a consultation notice; and
 - (b) after the notice was given, the ownership of the land changes.
- (2) The applicant is taken to have given the notice to the new owner of the land when the former owner was given the notice.
 - (3) If the applicant becomes aware of the change, the applicant must give the new owner a copy of the notice.
 - (4) A failure to comply with subsection (3) does not prevent the application from being decided.

467 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may, after the consultation period has ended, grant or refuse the part 5 permission.
- (2) The Minister may impose conditions on the part 5 permission.

468 Criteria for decision

- (1) The Minister may grant the part 5 permission only if satisfied of each of the following—
 - (a) the applicant has given each owner of the land a consultation notice and the applicant has shown that each owner of the land has received the notice;
 - (b) either—
 - (i) the consultation period has ended and the Minister is reasonably satisfied the applicant has made reasonable attempts to consult with each owner of the land; or
 - (ii) before the end of the consultation period each owner of the land has—
 - (A) agreed to the grant of the part 5 permission; or
 - (B) given the applicant permission to enter the land;

- (c) the applicant has decided the site of the pipeline or facility;
 - (d) it is reasonable to site the pipeline or petroleum facility on the land;
 - (e) the land the subject of the part 5 permission is the minimum area needed for the permission;
 - (f) the granting of the part 5 permission is in the public interest.
- (2) In deciding the application any submissions lodged by an owner of the land during the consultation period must be considered.

469 Statement of proposed resumption may be included

The part 5 permission may include a statement that the State intends to resume the land the subject of the permission if the land is not, other than because of the permission, pipeline land or petroleum facility land for the licence, or proposed licence within 9 months after the permission takes effect.¹⁹³

470 Steps after and taking effect of part 5 permission

- (1) On granting of the part 5 permission, the applicant and the owner of the land the subject of the permission must be given a copy of it.
- (2) The permission takes effect on the later of the following days—
 - (a) the day it is granted;
 - (b) if the applicant does not hold the relevant pipeline or petroleum facility licence—the day the licence is granted;

¹⁹³ For the State's power to take the land, see part 4 (Taking land for pipelines and petroleum facilities).

- (c) another day fixed by the Minister.¹⁹⁴
- (3) The Minister must, after granting the part 5 permission, publish it in the gazette.

Division 2 Effect and term of part 5 permission

471 Effect of part 5 permission

- (1) The effect of the part 5 permission is that, under section 399 or 439, the land the subject of the permission becomes pipeline land or petroleum facility land for the licence.
- (2) The part 5 permission does not, of itself, give the holder the right to carry out authorised activities for the licence.

Note—

Chapter 5, parts 2 and 3 provide for how the holder may enter the land to carry out authorised activities.

472 Term of part 5 permission

- (1) A part 5 permission ceases to be in force—
- (a) if the land the subject of the permission becomes, other than because of the permission, pipeline land or petroleum facility land for the relevant licence; or
- (b) if it is cancelled under section 473; or
- (c) 9 months after it is granted.
- (2) However, if the State has, within the 9 months, given a notice of intention to resume the land under part 4, the part 5 permission continues in force until—

194 For the authorised activities that may be carried out when the part 5 permission takes effect (and, if the licence has not been granted, when it is granted), see sections 401 (Construction and operation of pipeline) and 441 (Construction and operation of petroleum facility).

If the licence has not yet been granted, see also section 802 (Restriction on pipeline construction or operation) and 803 (Restriction on petroleum facility construction or operation).

- (a) the land is taken under part 4 and it is transferred to the licence holder; or
 - (b) the taking of the land is discontinued.¹⁹⁵
- (3) On the part 5 permission ceasing to be in force, the Minister must gazette a notice stating that it is no longer in force.

473 Power to cancel part 5 permission

- (1) The Minister may cancel the part 5 permission at any time.
- (2) The cancellation takes effect when the holder is given an information notice about the decision to cancel or, if the notice states a later day of effect, on that later day.

Part 6 Amending licence by application

474 Amendment applications that may be made

- (1) A licence holder may apply for the amendment of the licence.

Examples of how a licence may be amended—

- changing, removing or adding a new condition
 - for a pipeline or petroleum facility licence—
 - changing any configuration or specification stated in the licence for the pipeline or facility; or
 - increasing or reducing the area of the pipeline or petroleum facility land
 - for a pipeline licence—changing a route of a pipeline
- (2) Despite subsection (1), an application can not be made to amend the licence in a way that is—

195 See section 458 (Process for taking land) and the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*, part 3 (Discontinuance of taking of land).

- (a) inconsistent with a mandatory condition, other than to change the completion day for construction stated in the licence;¹⁹⁶ or
- (b) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the licence.

475 Requirements for making application

The application must be—

- (a) in the approved form; and
- (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging licence amendment applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

476 Notice requirements

- (1) This section applies for the application if it seeks to extend the area of the licence.
- (2) If the area is for a pipeline, sections 409A and 411 apply as if the application was a pipeline licence application for the proposed extended area.
- (3) If the area is for a petroleum facility, section 445A applies as if the application was a petroleum facility licence application for the proposed extended area.

477 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may grant or refuse the amendment.

196 See sections 419 (Obligation to construct pipeline) and 452 (Obligation to construct facility).

- (2) In deciding the application, the relevant criteria under this chapter for deciding an application to obtain the licence must, to the extent they are relevant, be considered.¹⁹⁷
- (3) The Minister may grant the application subject to the applicant's written agreement to the Minister amending the licence in a stated way that the Minister considers appropriate.¹⁹⁸

Examples—

An application is to extend a pipeline or petroleum facility. The Minister may grant the application subject to the applicant agreeing in writing to the Minister amending the licence so that the extension must be completed—

- (a) by a stated day; or
- (b) in accordance with a stated standard or specification.

478 Information notice about refusal

On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

Part 7 Renewals

478A Survey licence can not be renewed

A survey licence can not be renewed.

479 Conditions for renewal application for other types of licence

- (1) The holder of a licence, other than a survey licence, may apply to renew the licence only if none of the following is outstanding—

197 See sections 397, 415 and 448 (Criteria for decisions).

198 See section 848 (Power to correct or amend).

See also chapter 5, part 1 (Security).

- (a) an annual licence fee for the licence;
 - (b) a civil penalty under section 424 or 455 for nonpayment of an annual licence fee;
 - (c) interest payable under section 588 on the annual licence fee or civil penalty;
 - (d) security for the licence, as required under section 488.
- (2) Also, the application can not be made—
- (a) more than 60 business days before the end of the term of the licence; or
 - (b) after the licence has ended.

480 Requirements for making application

The application must be—

- (a) in the approved form; and
- (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging licence renewal applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) state whether or not the applicant has complied with chapter 5, part 7, for reports required to be lodged in relation to the licence; and
- (d) accompanied by—
 - (i) the application fee prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (ii) if the application is made less than 20 business days before the end of the term of the licence—an amount that is 10 times the application fee.

481 Continuing effect of licence for renewal application

- (1) This section applies if the term of the licence ends before the application is decided.
- (2) Despite the ending of the term, the licence continues in force until the earlier of the following to happen—
 - (a) the start of any renewed term of the licence; or
 - (b) a refusal of the application takes effect;¹⁹⁹ or
 - (c) the application is withdrawn; or
 - (d) the licence is cancelled under this Act.
- (3) If the licence is renewed, subsection (2) is taken never to have applied for the period from the end of the term of the licence being renewed, as stated in that licence.²⁰⁰

482 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may grant or refuse the renewal.
- (2) However, the Minister must grant the renewal if the Minister considers—
 - (a) the applicant—
 - (i) continues to be capable of carrying out authorised activities for the licence; and
 - (ii) has substantially complied with the licence; and
 - (b) a relevant environmental authority for the renewed licence has been issued.
- (3) Also, the Minister may, as a condition of deciding to grant the application, require the applicant to do all or any of the following within a stated reasonable period—
 - (a) pay the annual licence fee for the first year of the renewed licence;
 - (b) give, under section 488, security for the renewed licence.

199 See section 486 (When refusal takes effect).

200 See section 482(3) (Deciding application).

- (4) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the Minister may refuse the application.

483 Provisions and term of renewed licence

- (1) The conditions of the renewed licence may be different from the conditions or other provisions of the licence being renewed.
- (2) However, a takeover condition may be imposed on a renewed licence only if the licence being renewed was subject to that condition.
- (3) The renewed licence must state its term.
- (4) The renewed licence may also state—
- (a) conditions or other provisions of the renewed licence, other than conditions or provisions that are—
 - (i) inconsistent with the mandatory conditions for that type of licence; or
 - (ii) the same as, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, any relevant environmental condition for the licence; and
 - (b) a day for the renewed licence to take effect.
- (5) However, the provisions of the renewed licence may exclude or restrict the carrying out of an authorised activity for the licence.
- (6) If the renewed licence is decided before the end of the term of the licence being renewed as stated in that licence (the *previous term*), the term of the renewed licence is taken to start from the end of the previous term.
- (7) If the renewed licence is decided after the previous term, the term of the renewed licence starts immediately after the end of the previous term, but—
- (a) the conditions of the renewed licence do not start until the licence holder is given notice of them; and
 - (b) until the notice is given, the conditions of the licence being renewed apply to the renewed licence as if they were its conditions.

484 Criteria for decisions

The matters that must be considered in deciding the renewal application and the provisions of the renewed licence include—

- (a) if the licence being renewed is a pipeline licence and the applicant proposes to change the pipelines the subject of the licence—the matters mentioned in section 415 to the extent they are relevant to the change; or
- (b) if the licence being renewed is a petroleum facility licence and the applicant proposes to change the facility—the appropriateness of the configuration, construction methods, and design for the change.

485 Information notice about refusal

On refusal of the application, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

486 When refusal takes effect

A refusal of the application does not take effect until the end of the appeal period for the decision to refuse.²⁰¹

Chapter 5 Common petroleum authority provisions²⁰²

Part 1 Security

487 Operation and purpose of pt 1

- (1) This part empowers the Minister to require, from time to time,

201 See sections 824 (Period to appeal) and 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

202 See also chapter 1, part 5 (General provisions for petroleum authorities) and chapter 14, part 2 (Miscellaneous provisions for all authorities under Act).

the holder of a petroleum authority, or a person who has applied for a petroleum authority, to give the State security for the authority, or proposed authority.

- (2) The security may be used to pay—
 - (a) any liability under this Act that the State incurs because of an act or omission of the holder; and
 - (b) unpaid petroleum royalty or annual licence fee or rent payable by the holder to the State; and
 - (c) other unpaid amounts payable under this Act by the holder to the State, including, for example any of the following payable by the holder to the State—
 - (i) unpaid civil penalty;
 - (ii) unpaid interest on unpaid petroleum royalty or annual rent;
 - (iii) any debt payable by the holder under section 587; and
 - (d) any compensation the State must pay under section 584 because of the exercise, or purported exercise, of a remedial power under section 580 in relation to the authority, whether or not the authority has ended.

488 Power to require security for petroleum authority

- (1) The Minister may require the holder of a petroleum authority, or a person who has applied for a petroleum authority, to give the State security for the authority, or proposed authority.
- (2) The security must be—
 - (a) in the form prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (b) of at least the amount prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) The requirement may be made at any time.
- (4) However, the requirement does not take effect until the holder or applicant is given—
 - (a) for a requirement to give security in the form and amount prescribed under subsection (2)—notice of the requirement; or

- (b) otherwise—an information notice about the decision to make the requirement.

489 Minister's power to require additional security

- (1) The Minister may, at any time, require a petroleum authority holder to increase the amount of security given for the authority.
- (2) However—
 - (a) if, because of an increase in the prescribed amount under section 488(2), the requirement is to increase the total security required to no more than the increased prescribed amount—the requirement must be made by notice to the holder; or
 - (b) if the requirement is to increase the total security required to more than the prescribed amount under section 488(2) when the requirement is made—
 - (i) subsections (3) to (6) must be complied with before making the requirement; and
 - (ii) the requirement does not take effect until the holder is given an information notice about the decision to make the requirement.
- (3) The Minister must give the holder notice—
 - (a) stating the proposed increased amount of the security for the authority; and
 - (b) inviting the holder to lodge, within a stated reasonable period, submissions about the proposed increased amount at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (4) The stated period must end at least 20 business days after the holder is given the notice.

- (5) Any submissions lodged by the holder within the stated period must be considered before deciding to make the requirement.
- (6) In this section—
security given, includes security given or increased because of a requirement under subsection (1).

490 Interest on security

The State may keep any interest that accrues on security given under this part for a petroleum authority.

491 Power to use security

The State may use security given under this part for a petroleum authority, and any interest that accrues on the security, to make a payment mentioned in section 487(2) in relation to the authority.

492 Replenishment of security

- (1) This section applies, if—
 - (a) under section 491, all or part of the security for a petroleum authority has been used; and
 - (b) the authority is still in force.
- (2) The Minister must give the authority holder a notice—
 - (a) stating how much of the security has been used; and
 - (b) directing the holder to, within 30 days after the giving of the notice, replenish the security for the authority up to the higher of the following—
 - (i) the amount prescribed under a regulation;
 - (ii) if the notice states that, under section 488, another amount is required—the other amount.

493 Security not affected by change in authority holder

- (1) This section applies if security for a petroleum authority is given under this part for an authority that is still in force and there is a subsequent change in the authority holder.
- (2) Despite the subsequent change, the security, and any interest that accrues on it, continues for the benefit of the State and may be used under section 491.
- (3) If the security is in the form of money, until the security is replaced or refunded it continues for the holder from time to time of the authority.

494 Retention of security after petroleum authority ends

- (1) Security, or part of security, given for a petroleum authority may be kept for 1 year after the authority has ended.
- (2) Also, if a claim made for the use of the security has not been assessed, an appropriate amount of the security to meet the claim may be kept until the claim has been assessed.

Part 2 Private land**Division 1 Requirements for entry to private land in petroleum authority area****Subdivision 1 Entry notice requirement for preliminary activities and particular advanced activities****495 Entry notice requirement**

- (1) A person must not—
 - (a) enter private land in a petroleum authority's area to carry out a preliminary activity for the authority; or

(b) enter private land in a petroleum authority's area to carry out an advanced activity for the authority if either of the following applies for the entry—

- (i) the deferral agreement exemption;
- (ii) the Land Court application exemption;

unless the petroleum authority's holder has given each owner and occupier of the land a written notice of the entry that complies with section 496 (an **entry notice**).

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) The entry notice must be given—
- (a) generally—at least 10 business days before the entry; or
 - (b) if, by a signed endorsement on the notice, the relevant owner or occupier has agreed to a shorter period—the shorter period.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (3) The holder must give the chief executive a copy of the entry notice immediately after the notice is given and before entry is made under the petroleum authority.

Maximum penalty—10 penalty units.

- (4) A contravention of subsection (3) does not affect the validity of the notice or the entry.
- (5) This section is subject to section 497.
- (6) In this section—

deferral agreement exemption, for an entry, means that the conduct and compensation agreement requirement does not apply for the entry because of section 500A(e)(i).

give, for an entry notice, includes publishing it in a way approved under section 499.

Land Court application exemption, for an entry, means that the conduct and compensation agreement requirement does not apply for the entry because of section 500A(e)(ii).

496 Required contents of entry notice

- (1) An entry notice must state the following—

- (a) the land proposed to be entered;
 - (b) the period during which the land will be entered (the *entry period*);
 - (c) the activities proposed to be carried out on the land;
 - (d) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out;
 - (e) contact details for—
 - (i) the relevant petroleum authority holder; or
 - (ii) another person the holder has authorised to discuss the matters stated in the notice.
- (2) Also, the first entry notice from the petroleum authority holder to a particular owner or occupier must be accompanied by or include a copy of—
- (a) the petroleum authority; and
 - (b) the land access code; and
 - (c) any code of practice made under this Act applying to authorised activities for the petroleum authority; and
 - (d) the relevant environmental authority documentation.
- (3) The entry period can not be longer than—
- (a) generally—
 - (i) for an authority to prospect—6 months; or
 - (ii) for another petroleum authority—1 year; or
 - (b) if the relevant owner or occupier agrees in writing to a longer period—the longer period.
- (4) Subject to subsections (1) to (3), an entry notice may state an entry period that is different to the entry period stated in another entry notice given by the petroleum authority holder to another owner or occupier of the land.
- (5) In this section—
- relevant environmental authority documentation*** means—
- (a) if, under the Environmental Protection Act, the relevant environmental authority for the petroleum authority is a code compliant authority—the relevant code; or

- (b) if, under the Environmental Protection Act, the relevant environmental authority for the petroleum authority is a non-code compliant authority—
 - (i) the environmental authority; and
 - (ii) if the environmental authority imposes conditions by referring to a code—that code.

497 Exemptions from entry notice requirement

- (1) The requirement under section 495(1) to give an entry notice does not apply for an entry to land to carry out an authorised activity if any of the following apply—
 - (a) the petroleum authority holder owns the land;
 - (b) the holder has the right other than under this Act to enter the land to carry out the activity;
 - (c) if—
 - (i) there is a conduct and compensation agreement relating to the land; and
 - (ii) each eligible claimant for the land is a party to the agreement; and
 - (iii) the agreement includes a waiver of entry notice;
 - (d) the authority is a pipeline licence and an owner's permission under section 399 has been given for the land;
 - (e) the authority is a petroleum facility licence and an owner's permission under section 439 has been given for the land;
 - (f) the entry is to preserve life or property or because of an emergency that exists or may exist;
 - (g) the relevant owner or occupier has, by signed writing, given a waiver of entry notice.
- (2) A waiver of entry notice mentioned in subsection (1) must comply with section 498(1).

498 Provisions for waiver of entry notice

- (1) A waiver of entry notice mentioned in section 497 must—
 - (a) if it does not form part of a conduct and compensation agreement, be written and signed; and
 - (b) state the following—
 - (i) that the relevant owner or occupier has been told they are not required to agree to the waiver of entry notice;
 - (ii) the authorised activities proposed to be carried out on the land;
 - (iii) the period during which the land will be entered;
 - (iv) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out.
- (2) The relevant owner or occupier can not withdraw the waiver of entry notice during the period.
- (3) The waiver of entry notice ceases to have effect at the end of the period.

499 Giving entry notice by publication

- (1) The chief executive may approve a petroleum authority holder giving an entry notice for the authority by publishing it in a stated way.
- (2) The publication may relate to more than 1 entry notice.
- (3) The chief executive may give the approval only if satisfied—
 - (a) for a relevant owner or occupier who is an individual, it is impracticable to give the owner or occupier the notice personally; and
 - (b) the publication will happen at least 20 business days before the entry.

Subdivision 2 Conduct and compensation agreement requirement for particular advanced activities

500 Conduct and compensation agreement requirement

- (1) A person must not enter private land in a petroleum authority's area to carry out an advanced activity for the authority (the *relevant activity*) unless each eligible claimant for the land is a party to an appropriate conduct and compensation agreement.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) The requirement under subsection (1) is the *conduct and compensation agreement requirement*.

Note—

For conduct and compensation agreements, see part 5.

- (3) In this section—

appropriate conduct and compensation agreement, for an eligible claimant, means a conduct and compensation agreement about the holder's compensation liability to the eligible claimant of at least to the extent the liability relates to the relevant activity and its effects.

500A Exemptions from conduct and compensation agreement requirement

The conduct and compensation agreement requirement does not apply for an entry to land to carry out an advanced activity if any of the following apply—

- (a) the petroleum authority holder owns the land;
- (b) the holder has a right to enter the land to carry out the activity and the right—
- (i) exists other than under this Act; and
- (ii) is not under an easement;
- (c) the authority is a pipeline licence and an owner's permission under section 399 has been given for the land;

- (d) the authority is a petroleum facility licence and an owner's permission under section 439 has been given for the land;
- (e) each eligible claimant for the land is—
 - (i) a party to an agreement, complying with section 500B, that a conduct and compensation agreement can be entered into after the entry (a *deferral agreement*); or
 - (ii) an applicant or respondent to a Land Court application under section 537B relating to the land;
- (f) the entry is to preserve life or property or because of an emergency that exists or may exist.

500B Requirements for deferral agreement

A deferral agreement must—

- (a) be written and signed by or for the holder and each eligible claimant for the land to be entered; and
- (b) state the following—
 - (i) that the eligible claimant has been told the claimant is under no obligation to enter into a deferral agreement before entering into a conduct and compensation agreement;
 - (ii) the authorised activities proposed to be carried out on the land;
 - (iii) the period during which the land will be entered;
 - (iv) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out;
 - (v) the period for which the deferral agreement has effect;
 - (vi) when it is proposed to enter into a conduct and compensation agreement.

Division 3 Access to private land outside area of petroleum authority

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

501 Application of div 3

This division applies for a petroleum authority in relation to all private land outside the area of the authority.²⁰³

Subdivision 2 Access rights and access agreements

502 Access rights of petroleum authority holder

- (1) Subject to section 503, the holder of a petroleum authority has the following rights—
- (a) to cross the land if it is reasonably necessary to allow the holder to enter the area of the authority;
 - (b) to carry out activities on the land that are reasonably necessary to allow the crossing of the land.

Examples for paragraph (b)—

- 1 constructing a road or track
 - 2 opening a gate or fence
- (2) The rights under subsection (1) that may, under section 503, be exercised are the *access rights* for the authority.²⁰⁴
- (3) Land to which the access rights apply is *access land* for the authority.

203 For land in the area of a mining lease see section 6 (Relationship with Mineral Resources Act) and the Mineral Resources Act, section 403 (Offences regarding land subject to mining claim or mining lease).

204 See however section 804 (Duty to avoid interference in carrying out authorised activities).

503 Restriction on exercise of access rights

- (1) The access rights may be exercised only if—
 - (a) the exercise of the rights is needed to preserve life or property because of a dangerous situation or emergency that exists, or may exist; or
 - (b) the following have agreed orally or in writing to the exercise of the rights—
 - (i) if exercising the rights is likely to have a permanent impact on the land—each owner and the occupier of the land;
 - (ii) if exercising the rights is unlikely to have a permanent impact on the land—each occupier of the land.
- (2) An agreement mentioned in subsection (1)(b) is an *access agreement*.²⁰⁵
- (3) In this section—

permanent impact, on the land, means a continuing effect on the land or its use or a permanent or long-term adverse effect on its current lawful use by an occupier of the land.

Example of an exercise of the rights that is likely to have a permanent impact—

building a road

Example of an exercise of the rights that is unlikely to have a permanent impact—

opening or closing a gate

504 Owner or occupier must not unreasonably refuse to make access agreement

- (1) An owner or occupier of the land must not, if asked by a petroleum authority holder, unreasonably refuse to make an access agreement for the exercise of the access rights.
- (2) For subsection (1), the owner or occupier does not unreasonably refuse merely because the owner or occupier

205 See also section 508(3) (Power of Land Court to decide access agreement).

asks for agreement to be subject to reasonable and relevant conditions offered by the owner or occupier.

- (3) If the holder asks the owner or occupier to make an access agreement and the owner or occupier has not, within 20 business days, made the agreement, the owner or occupier is taken to have refused to agree.

Note—

Either party may refer a refusal under subsection (1) or (3) to the Land Court to decide whether the refusal is unreasonable. See section 508.

505 Principles for deciding whether access is reasonable

- (1) This section provides for matters to which regard must be had in deciding whether—
- (a) it is reasonably necessary for a petroleum authority holder to cross the land to allow the holder to enter the area of the petroleum authority; or
 - (b) it is reasonably necessary for the holder to carry out activities on the land to allow the crossing of the land; or
 - (c) the owner or occupier has unreasonably refused to make an access agreement.
- (2) The holder must first show that it not possible or reasonable to exercise the access rights by using a formed road.
- (3) After subsection (2) has been satisfied, the following must be considered—
- (a) the nature and extent of any impact the exercise of the access rights will have on the land and the owner or occupier's use and enjoyment of it;
 - (b) how, when and where and the period during which the holder proposes to exercise the access rights.

506 Provisions for access and access agreements

- (1) Section 497 applies for any entry to the land by a petroleum authority holder as if the entry were an entry to carry out authorised activities.

- (2) However—
 - (a) a written access agreement may include a waiver of entry notice for the entry; and
 - (b) if an access agreement provides for alternative provisions to section 497 for the entry, section 497 does not apply for so long as the alternative provisions are in force.
- (3) A written access agreement may include a compensation agreement in relation to the exercise or future exercise of access rights by the holder.²⁰⁶
- (4) This division does not limit or otherwise affect the ability of the owner or occupier to grant the holder a right of access to the land, including, for example, by the grant of an easement.

507 Access agreement binds successors and assigns

Subject to section 509, an access agreement binds the parties to it and each of their personal representatives, successors in title and assigns.

Subdivision 3 Land Court resolution

508 Power of Land Court to decide access agreement

- (1) If a dispute arises between a petroleum authority holder and an owner or occupier of the land (the *parties*) about a matter mentioned in section 505(1), any party to the dispute may apply to the Land Court for it to decide the matter.
- (2) In deciding the matter, the Land Court may impose conditions it considers appropriate for the exercise of the access rights.
- (3) Any conditions imposed under subsection (2) are taken to be—
 - (a) if there is already an access agreement between the parties—conditions of that agreement; or

²⁰⁶ For the authority holder's liability to compensate the owner or occupier, see section 532 (General liability to compensate).

- (b) if there is no access agreement between the parties—an access agreement between the parties.

509 Power of Land Court to vary access agreement

- (1) An owner or occupier of the land or a petroleum authority holder may apply to the Land Court to vary any access agreement between them.
- (2) The Land Court may vary the access agreement only if it considers the change is appropriate because of a material change in circumstances.
- (3) Subsection (4) does not limit section 534.
- (4) This section does not prevent the owner or occupier and the holder from agreeing to vary the access agreement.

510 Criteria for deciding access

In deciding an application under this subdivision, the Land Court must have regard to section 505(2) and (3).

Division 4 Provisions for dealings or change in ownership or occupancy

511 Entry notice or waiver of entry notice or access agreement not affected by dealing

A dealing with a petroleum authority does not affect an entry notice or waiver of entry notice or an access agreement given or made in relation to the authority.

512 Change in ownership or occupancy

- (1) If, after the giving of an entry notice, the ownership or occupancy of the relevant land changes—
 - (a) the holder of the petroleum authority for which the entry notice was given is taken to have given that notice to each new owner or occupier of the land; and

- (b) section 495(2) does not apply for the new owner or occupier for the entry period stated in the notice.
- (2) If, after the giving of a waiver of entry notice, the ownership or occupancy of the relevant land changes, each new owner or occupier of the land is taken to have given that waiver of entry notice.
- (3) If the relevant petroleum authority holder becomes aware of a new owner or occupier mentioned in subsection (1) or (2), the holder must, within 15 business days, give the new owner or occupier a copy of the entry notice or waiver of entry notice.
- (4) If the holder does not comply with subsection (3), subsections (1) and (2) cease to apply for the entry notice or consent.

Division 5 Periodic notice after entry of land

513 Notice to owners and occupiers

- (1) This section applies if —
 - (a) private land has been entered to carry out authorised activities for a petroleum authority; or
 - (b) access land for a petroleum authority has been entered in the exercise of the access rights over the land.
- (2) The authority holder must, within 3 months after the end of the period under subsection (3), (4) or (5), give each owner and occupier of the land a notice stating—
 - (a) what activities were carried out on the land during that period, and where they were carried out; or
 - (b) if no activities were carried out on the land during the period—that no activities were carried out on the land during that period.
- (3) If an entry notice was given for the entry to all owners or occupiers of the land, the period for subsection (2) is the period stated in the entry notice.
- (4) If all owners or occupiers of the land gave a waiver of entry notice for the entry, the period for subsection (2) is the longer

of following periods after the giving of the waiver of entry notice—

- (a) either—
 - (i) for an authority to prospect—6 months; or
 - (ii) for another petroleum authority—1 year;
 - (b) if, within the period under paragraph (a), each owner or occupier of the land consented to a longer period—the longer period.
- (5) If an entry notice for the entry was given to some of the owners or occupiers and the rest of the owners or occupiers gave a waiver of entry notice for the entry, the period for subsection (2) is the longer of the periods under subsections (3) and (4).

Division 6 Access to carry out rehabilitation and environmental management

513A Right of access for authorised activities includes access for rehabilitation and environmental management

If, under this part, a petroleum authority holder has the right to enter private land to carry out authorised activities for the authority, the right includes the right to enter the land to carry out rehabilitation or environmental management required of the holder under any relevant environmental requirement under the Environmental Protection Act.

Part 3 Public land²⁰⁷

Division 1 Public roads

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

514 Significant projects excluded from div 1

- (1) This division does not apply for a petroleum authority for a significant project.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit or otherwise affect conditions the Coordinator-General may, under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*, part 4, division 7, recommend for the authority.

515 What is a *notifiable road use*

- (1) A *notifiable road use*, for a petroleum authority, is—
 - (a) the use of a public road in the area of the authority for transport relating to a seismic survey or drilling activity; or
 - (b) the use of a public road at more than the threshold rate if the haulage relates to—
 - (i) the transportation of petroleum produced or processed in the area of the authority; or
 - (ii) the construction of a pipeline.
- (2) Subsection (1)(b) applies even if the road is not on land in the area of the petroleum authority.
- (3) In this section—
threshold rate means—

²⁰⁷ See however section 938 (Exclusion of ch 5, pt 3, div 1 for continuance of particular existing road uses).

- (a) for a State-controlled road—50000t a year; or
- (b) for another public road—10000t a year.

Subdivision 2 Notifiable road uses

516 Notice of notifiable road use

- (1) It is a condition of each petroleum authority that its holder must not use a public road for a notifiable road use unless the holder has given the public road authority for the road notice that the holder proposes to carry out the use.²⁰⁸
- (2) The notice must—
 - (a) be given—
 - (i) at least 10 business days before the use starts; or
 - (ii) within a shorter period agreed to by the public road authority in writing; and
 - (b) state each of the following—
 - (i) the public road proposed to be used;
 - (ii) the type of haulage under the use;
Examples of type of haulage—
 - vehicle type
 - material hauled
 - (iii) the total weight of material proposed to be hauled;
 - (iv) when the use is proposed to start and end;
 - (v) the frequency of vehicle movements;
 - (vi) contact details for the holder or someone else the holder has authorised to discuss the matters stated in the notice.

208 See also section 524 (Compensation to be addressed before carrying out notifiable road use).

517 Directions about notifiable road use

- (1) The public road authority for a public road may, by notice, give a petroleum authority holder a direction (a *road use direction*) about the way the holder may use the road for notifiable road uses being carried out, or proposed to be carried out, by the holder.
- (2) The direction must—
 - (a) be reasonable; and
 - (b) only be about—
 - (i) preserving the condition of the road; or
 - (ii) the safety of road-users or the public; and
 - (c) be accompanied by, or include, an information notice about the decision to give the direction.

Examples of what a direction may be about—

- when the road may be used
 - the route for the movement of heavy vehicles
 - safety precautions the holder must take
- (3) The direction may also require the holder to—
 - (a) carry out an assessment of the impacts likely to arise from the notifiable road use the subject of the notice; and
 - (b) consult with the public road authority in carrying out the assessment.
 - (4) However—
 - (a) an assessment can not be required if the notifiable road use is transport relating to a seismic survey or drilling activity; and
 - (b) the public road authority can not require an assessment of an impact to the extent it has already been assessed under an EIS under the Environmental Protection Act, or a similar document under another Act.

518 Obligation to comply with road use directions

It is a condition of each petroleum authority that its holder

must comply with any road use direction given to its holder relating to the authority, unless the holder has a reasonable excuse.

Subdivision 3 Compensation for notifiable road uses

519 Liability to compensate public road authority

- (1) The holder of each petroleum authority is liable to compensate the public road authority for a public road for any cost, damage or loss it incurs, or will incur, that is or will be caused by notifiable road uses carried out by the holder that relate to the road.

Examples of a possible cost for subsection (1)—

- repair costs to rectify damage to the road caused, or that will be caused, by any of the uses
 - capital costs for unplanned upgrades of the road incurred, or that will be incurred, because of any of the uses
 - bring-forward costs, including interest charges, for a planned upgrade of the road that, because of any of the uses, is or will be required earlier than planned
- (2) The holder's liability under subsection (1) is the holder's **compensation liability** to the public road authority.
- (3) The compensation liability—
- (a) applies whether or not the holder has, under section 516, given notice of the use; and
 - (b) is subject to section 525; and
 - (c) is in addition to, and does not limit or otherwise affect, the holder's liability under another provision of this Act about compensating the public road authority or anyone else.

520 Compensation agreement

- (1) A petroleum authority holder and the public road authority for a public road may enter into an agreement (a **compensation**

agreement) about the holder's compensation liability to the public road authority relating to the road.

- (2) A compensation agreement may relate to all or part of the liability.
- (3) A compensation agreement must—
 - (a) be signed by, or for, the holder and the public road authority; and
 - (b) state whether it is for all or part of the liability; and
 - (c) if it is for only part of the liability, state—
 - (i) each part of the notifiable road use to which the agreement relates; and
 - (ii) the period for which the agreement has effect; and
 - (d) provide for how and when the liability will be met.
- (4) A compensation agreement may—
 - (a) extend the holder's compensation liability to the public road authority relating to the road to any renewal of the petroleum authority; and
 - (b) provide for—
 - (i) monetary or non-monetary compensation; or
 - (ii) a process by which it may be amended or enforced.

Example for paragraph (b)—

A compensation agreement may provide for compensation under it to be reviewed on the happening of a material change in circumstances for the petroleum authority, including a significant decrease or increase in the extent of the relevant notifiable road use.

- (5) Subsections (2) to (4) do not limit the matters that may be provided for in a compensation agreement.

521 Deciding compensation through Land Court

- (1) The public road authority for a public road or a petroleum authority holder may apply to the Land Court for it to decide the holder's compensation liability to the public road authority relating to the road.

- (2) The Land Court may decide the compensation liability only to the extent it is not subject to a compensation agreement.
- (3) In making the decision, the Land Court may have regard to whether the applicant has attempted to mediate or negotiate the compensation liability.

522 Criteria for decision

- (1) The criteria the Land Court must consider, in deciding a compensation application, include—
 - (a) the reasonableness of the cost, damage or loss claimed; and
 - (b) if the public road authority is a local government—the extent to which the cost, damage or loss claimed has been, will be or ought reasonably to be or to have been, paid from—
 - (i) amounts the petroleum authority holder has paid, or agreed to pay, the public road authority for notifiable road uses; or
 - (ii) rates and charges under the *Local Government Act 2009* paid or payable by the petroleum authority holder to the public road authority; and
 - (c) any other relevant matter.
- (2) In considering the reasonableness of any cost, damage or loss claimed, the Land Court must have regard to—
 - (a) any action taken, or proposed by, the petroleum authority holder to, or to attempt to, avoid, minimise or remedy the cost, damage or loss; and
 - (b) any relevant act or omission of the public road authority.
- (3) Subsection (1)(b)(ii) applies whether or not the rates and charges relate to notifiable road uses.

523 Land Court review of compensation

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the compensation liability, or future compensation liability, of a petroleum authority holder to a public road

authority has been agreed to under a compensation agreement or decided by the Land Court (the *original compensation*); and

- (b) there has, since the agreement or decision, been a material change in circumstances.

Example of a material change in circumstances—

a significant decrease or increase in the extent of the relevant notifiable road use

- (2) The public road authority or petroleum authority holder may apply to the Land Court for it to review the original compensation.
- (3) Sections 521 and 522 apply for the review as if the application were a compensation application.
- (4) The Land Court may, after carrying out the review, decide to confirm the original compensation or amend it in a way the Land Court considers appropriate.
- (5) However, before making the decision, the Land Court must have regard to—
- (a) the original compensation; and
- (b) whether the applicant has attempted to mediate or negotiate an amendment of the original compensation; and
- (c) any change in the matters mentioned in section 522(1) since the original compensation was agreed or decided.
- (6) If the decision is to amend the original compensation, the original compensation as amended under the decision, is for this Act, taken to be the original compensation.

524 Compensation to be addressed before carrying out notifiable road use

- (1) It is a condition of each petroleum authority that its holder must not carry out a notifiable road use on a public road unless—
- (a) the holder and the relevant public road authority have signed a compensation agreement for the use; or

- (b) the public road authority has given written consent to the carrying out of the use; or
 - (c) a compensation application has been made to decide the holder's compensation liability to the public road authority relating to the road.²⁰⁹
- (2) A consent under subsection (1)(b) may be given for any renewal of the petroleum authority.

525 Compensation not affected by change in administration or holder

- (1) An agreement or decision under this part about compensation liability is binding on—
- (a) the relevant public road authority; and
 - (b) the relevant petroleum authority holder; and
 - (c) each of their personal representatives, successors and assigns.
- (2) Subsection (1) is subject to section 523.

Division 2 Other public land

526 Requirement for entry notice to carry out authorised activities

- (1) This section does not apply for a notifiable road use.²¹⁰
- (2) A petroleum authority holder must not enter public land to carry out an authorised activity for the authority on public land²¹¹ unless—
- (a) the activity is an activity that may be carried out by a member of the public without requiring the specific approval of the public land authority for the land; or

209 See section 521(1) (Deciding compensation through Land Court).

210 For notifiable road uses see sections 516 (Notice of notifiable road use) and 517 (Directions about notifiable road use).

211 For private land, see part 2 (Private land).

Example—

travelling on a public road in the area of the petroleum authority

- (b) the holder has, at least 30 business days before the entry, given the public land authority notice under this part (an **entry notice**) of the proposed entry; or
- (c) the entry is needed to preserve life or property because of a dangerous situation or emergency that exists, or may exist; or
- (d) the public land authority has agreed that an entry notice is not required.

Maximum penalty for subsection (2)—100 penalty units.

- (3) An agreement under subsection (2)(d) is a **waiver of entry notice**.

526A Waiver of entry notice

- (1) A waiver of entry notice—
 - (a) may be given only by signed writing; and
 - (b) must state each of the following—
 - (i) that the public land authority has been told it is not required to agree to the waiver of entry notice;
 - (ii) the authorised activities proposed to be carried out on the land;
 - (iii) the period during which the land will be entered;
 - (iv) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out.
- (2) The public land authority can not withdraw the waiver of entry notice during the period.
- (3) The waiver of entry notice ceases to have effect at the end of the period.

526B Required contents of entry notice

- (1) An entry notice must state each of the following—
 - (a) the land proposed to be entered;

- (b) the period during which the land will be entered (the *entry period*);
 - (c) the activities proposed to be carried out on the land;
 - (d) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out;
 - (e) contact details for—
 - (i) the relevant petroleum authority holder; or
 - (ii) another person the holder has authorised to discuss the matters stated in the notice.
- (2) The entry period must not be longer than—
- (a) for an authority to prospect—6 months; or
 - (b) for another petroleum authority—1 year.
- (3) However, the entry period may be longer if the public land authority agrees in writing.
- (4) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), an entry notice given to 1 public land authority in relation to the public land may state a different entry period from an entry notice given to another public land authority in relation to the public land.
- (5) If a proposed activity is not likely to significantly disrupt activities the public land authority ordinarily carries out on the land, the entry notice may comply with subsection (1)(c) and (d) by generally describing the nature and extent of the activity.

527 Conditions public land authority may impose

- (1) A public land authority may, subject to section 426, impose relevant and reasonable conditions on a petroleum authority holder including, for example, about giving the public land authority—
- (a) notice of proposed entry—
 - (i) generally—at least 2 business days before the proposed entry; or

- (ii) if the holder and the public land authority have agreed to a longer or shorter period for giving the notice—within the longer or shorter period; or
 - (b) notice at stated intervals of activities carried out by, or for, the holder on the land.
- (2) However, the public land authority can not impose a condition that is the same, or substantially the same as, or inconsistent with, a condition of the petroleum authority or a relevant environmental authority.
 - (3) Despite subsection (2), if the public land authority is the chief executive of the department in which the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* is administered, that chief executive may impose a condition more stringent than the conditions of the environmental authority.
 - (4) If the authority decides to impose a condition, other than a condition agreed to or requested by the holder, it must give the holder an information notice about the decision.
 - (5) In carrying out the activity, the holder must comply with the conditions.

Maximum penalty for subsection (5)—100 penalty units.

Part 4 **Access to land in area of particular other authorities**

528 **Application of pt 4**

- (1) This part applies for a petroleum authority (the *first authority*) in relation to land that is outside its area and in the area of another petroleum authority, a 1923 Act petroleum tenure, a GHG authority or a mining tenement (the *second authority*).

- (2) However, if the land is also private land or public land, this part does not limit part 2 or 3.²¹²

529 Access to land in area of mining lease, a 1923 Act lease or a petroleum lease

If the second authority is a mining lease, a 1923 Act lease or a petroleum lease, the first authority holder may enter the land only if—

- (a) the second authority holder has consented in writing to the entry; and
- (b) the first authority holder has lodged at the following office a notice stating that the consent has been given—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.

530 Access to land in area of another type of mining tenement or petroleum authority

- (1) If the second authority is not a mining lease, a 1923 Act lease or a petroleum lease, the first authority holder may do the following without the second authority holder's consent—
- (a) cross the land if it is reasonably necessary to allow the first authority holder to enter the area of the first authority; and
 - (b) carry out activities on the land that are reasonably necessary to allow the crossing of the land.
- (2) However, a right under subsection (1) may be exercised only if its exercise does not adversely affect the carrying out of an authorised activity for the second authority.

212 See also section 6 (Relationship with Mineral Resources Act) and the Mineral Resources Act, section 403 (Offences regarding land subject to mining claim or mining lease).

- (3) Subsection (2) applies whether or not the authorised activity has already started.²¹³

Part 5 Compensation and negotiated access

Division 1 Compensation other than for notifiable road uses

Subdivision 1 Preliminary

531 Application of div 1

This division does not apply for a public land authority in relation to a notifiable road use.

Subdivision 2 General provisions

532 General liability to compensate

- (1) The holder of each petroleum authority is liable to compensate each owner or occupier of private land or public land in the area of, or access land for, the authority (an *eligible claimant*) for any compensatable effect the eligible claimant suffers that is caused by relevant authorised activities.
- (2) A petroleum authority holder's liability under subsection (1) to an eligible claimant is the holder's *compensation liability* to the claimant.
- (3) This section is subject to section 537E.
- (4) In this section—

²¹³ For overlapping ATP land, see however, section 364 (Restriction on authorised activities on overlapping ATP land).

compensatable effect means all or any of the following—

- (a) all or any of the following relating to the eligible claimant's land—
 - (i) deprivation of possession of its surface;
 - (ii) diminution of its value;
 - (iii) diminution of the use made or that may be made of the land or any improvement on it;
 - (iv) severance of any part of the land from other parts of the land or from other land that the eligible claimant owns;
 - (v) any cost, damage or loss arising from the carrying out of activities under the petroleum authority on the land;
- (b) accounting, legal or valuation costs the claimant necessarily and reasonably incurs to negotiate or prepare a conduct and compensation agreement, other than the costs of a person facilitating an ADR;

Examples of negotiation—

an ADR or conference

- (c) consequential damages the eligible claimant incurs because of a matter mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b).

relevant authorised activities means authorised activities for the petroleum authority carried out by the holder or a person authorised by the holder.

Subdivision 3 General provisions for conduct and compensation agreements

533 Conduct and compensation agreement

- (1) An eligible claimant and a petroleum authority holder may enter into an agreement (a ***conduct and compensation agreement***) about—

- (a) how and when the petroleum authority holder may enter the land for which the eligible claimant is an eligible claimant; and
 - (b) how authorised activities under the petroleum authority to the extent they relate to the eligible claimant must be carried out; and
 - (c) the holder's compensation liability to the claimant or any future compensation liability that the holder may have to the claimant.
- (2) However, a conduct and compensation agreement can not be inconsistent with this Act, a condition of the petroleum authority or a mandatory provision of the land access code and is unenforceable to the extent of the inconsistency.
- (3) A conduct and compensation agreement may relate to all or part of the liability or future liability.
- (4) If the petroleum authority is a pipeline licence or petroleum facility licence, a compensation agreement about the holder's compensation liability may be included in an easement relating to the licence.

534 Content of conduct and compensation agreement

- (1) A conduct and compensation agreement must—
- (a) provide for the matters mentioned in section 533(1); and
 - (b) be written and signed by or for the petroleum authority holder and the eligible claimant; and
 - (c) state whether it is for all or part of the compensation liability; and
 - (d) if it is for only part of the compensation liability, state—
 - (i) details of each activity or effect of the activity to which the agreement relates; and
 - (ii) the period for which the agreement has effect; and
 - (e) provide for how and when the compensation liability will be met.
- (2) A conduct and compensation agreement may—

- (a) extend the holder's compensation liability to the claimant or any future compensation liability that the holder may have to the claimant to any renewal of the petroleum authority; and
 - (b) provide for—
 - (i) monetary or non-monetary compensation; or
Example of non-monetary compensation—
 A conduct and compensation agreement may provide for the construction of a road for the claimant.
 - (ii) a process by which it may be amended or enforced; and
Example of a process for amendment—
 A conduct and compensation agreement may provide for compensation under it to be reviewed on the happening of a material change in circumstances for the petroleum authority including a change in the extent of activities required under a later development plan for a petroleum lease.
 - (c) provide for any compensation that is or may be payable by the holder to the eligible claimant under the Environmental Protection Act.
- (3) This section does not limit the matters that may be provided for in a conduct and compensation agreement.

Subdivision 4 Negotiation process

Note—

Generally, a petroleum authority holder can not enter private land to carry out an advanced activity unless the holder complies with this subdivision. See sections 500 and 500A.

535 Notice of intent to negotiate

- (1) A petroleum authority holder may give an eligible claimant to whom the holder has a compensation liability a notice (the *negotiation notice*) that the holder wishes to negotiate a conduct and compensation agreement or a deferral agreement with the eligible claimant.

- (2) The negotiation notice must be accompanied by a copy of the land access code and state all of the following—
- (a) if the holder wishes to negotiate a conduct and compensation agreement—
 - (i) whether the holder wishes to negotiate all or part of the holder's compensation liability to the eligible claimant; and
 - (ii) if the holder only wishes to negotiate part of the liability—what the part is;
 - (b) if the holder wishes to negotiate a deferral agreement—that wish and the reasons for it;
 - (c) the land the holder proposes to enter;
 - (d) the activities proposed to be carried out on the land;
 - (e) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out;
 - (f) if the holder is a corporation—contact details for the holder and an individual the holder has authorised to negotiate the agreement.
- (3) The petroleum authority holder must give the chief executive a copy of the negotiation notice immediately after it is given.
- Maximum penalty for subsection (3)—10 penalty units.

536 Negotiations

- (1) On the giving of the negotiation notice, the petroleum authority holder and the eligible claimant (the *parties*) must use all reasonable endeavours to negotiate a conduct and compensation agreement or a deferral agreement (a *relevant agreement*).
- (2) The period of the negotiations—
- (a) must be at least for the period provided for under section 536A (the *minimum negotiation period*); but
 - (b) may continue for as long as the parties wish.
- (3) If, during the minimum negotiation period, the parties enter into a relevant agreement the petroleum authority holder can

not enter the relevant land to carry out advanced activities for the authority until the period ends.

- (4) Subsection (3) applies despite the terms of the agreement.

536A Provision for the minimum negotiation period

- (1) Generally, the minimum negotiation period is 20 business days from the giving of the negotiation notice (the *usual period*).
- (2) Either party may, within the usual period, ask the other to agree to a longer minimum negotiation period because of stated reasonable or unforeseen circumstances.
- (3) If the other party so agrees, the longer minimum negotiation period is the minimum negotiation period.

537 Cooling-off during minimum negotiation period

- (1) This section applies if the parties enter into a conduct and compensation agreement or a deferral agreement during the minimum negotiation period.
- (2) Either of the parties may, within the minimum negotiation period, terminate the agreement by giving notice to the other party.
- (3) On the giving of a notice under subsection (2), the terminated agreement is taken never to have had any effect.
- (4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that subsection (3) does not change the time when the negotiation notice was given.

537A Parties may seek conference or independent ADR

- (1) This section applies if, at the end of the minimum negotiation period, the parties have not entered into a conduct and compensation agreement or deferral agreement.
- (2) Either party may by a notice (an *election notice*)—
 - (a) to the other party and an authorised officer—ask for an authorised officer to call a conference to negotiate a conduct and compensation agreement; or

- (b) to the other party—call upon them to agree to an alternative dispute resolution process (an *ADR*) to negotiate a conduct and compensation agreement.
- (3) If the notice calls for an ADR, it must—
 - (a) identify the ADR; and
 - (b) state that the party giving the notice agrees to bear the costs of the person who will facilitate the ADR.
- (4) An ADR may be a process of any kind including, for example, arbitration, conciliation, mediation or negotiation.
- (5) However, the facilitator must be independent of either party.

537AB Conduct of conference or ADR

- (1) This section applies if an election notice is given.
- (2) If a conference was requested—
 - (a) the authorised officer must take all reasonable steps to ensure the conference is finished within 20 business days after the notice is given (the *usual period*); and
 - (b) chapter 10, part 1AA applies for the conference.
- (3) If an ADR was called for, the parties must use reasonable endeavours to finish it within 20 business days after the giving of the notice (also the *usual period*).
- (4) Either party may, within the usual period, ask the other to agree to a longer period to finish the conference or ADR because of stated reasonable or unforeseen circumstances.
- (5) If the parties agree to the longer period, that period applies instead of the usual period.
- (6) If an ADR was called for, section 734E applies to the ADR as if a reference in the section to a conference were a reference to an ADR.

Editor's note—

section 734E (What happens if a party does not attend)

Subdivision 5 Deciding compensation through Land Court

537B Land court may decide if negotiation process unsuccessful

- (1) This section applies if an election notice is given and—
 - (a) a party asked an authorised officer to call a conference and the authorised officer does not finish it within the period required under section 537AB (the *required period*); or
 - (b) a party called for an ADR and the person facilitating the ADR does not finish it within the period required under section 537AB (also the *required period*).
- (2) This section also applies if an election notice is given and—
 - (a) only 1 party attended the conference requested or ADR called for; or
 - (b) both parties attended the conference or ADR and, at the end of the required period, there is no conduct and compensation agreement between the parties.
- (3) An eligible party may apply to the Land Court for it to decide the petroleum authority holder's—
 - (a) compensation liability to the claimant; or
 - (b) future compensation liability to the claimant for an authorised activity for the petroleum authority proposed to be carried out by or for the holder.
- (4) However, the Land Court may decide the liability or future liability only to the extent it is not subject to a conduct and compensation agreement.
- (5) In hearing the application, the Land Court must as much as practicable ensure the hearing happens together with, or as closely as possible to, the hearing of any relevant environmental compensation application.
- (6) In this section—

eligible party means a party who attended the conference or ADR.

relevant environmental compensation application means an application to the Land Court for compensation that is or may be payable by the petroleum authority holder to the eligible claimant under the Environmental Protection Act.

537C Land Court review of compensation

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the compensation liability or future compensation liability of a petroleum authority holder to an eligible claimant has been agreed to under a conduct and compensation agreement or decided by the Land Court (the ***original compensation***); and
 - (b) there has been a material change in circumstances (the ***change***) since the agreement or decision.
- (2) The eligible claimant or the holder may apply to the Land Court for it to review the original compensation.
- (3) In carrying out the review, the Land Court may review the original compensation only to the extent it is affected by the change.
- (4) If the Land Court considers the original compensation is not affected by the change, it must not carry out or continue with the review.
- (5) The Land Court may, after carrying out the review, decide to confirm the original compensation or amend it in a way the court considers appropriate.
- (6) If the decision is to amend the compensation, the original compensation as amended under the decision is, for this Act, taken to be the original compensation.

537D Orders Land Court may make

- (1) The Land Court may make any order it considers appropriate to meet or enforce its decision on an application under this part.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Land Court may order non-monetary compensation as well as monetary compensation.

Subdivision 6 Additional Land Court jurisdiction for compensation and related matters

537DA What sdiv 6 is about

- (1) This subdivision provides for additional matters for which the Land Court has jurisdiction.
- (2) The jurisdiction is subject to subdivisions 1 to 5.

537DB Additional jurisdiction

- (1) This section applies to a petroleum authority holder and an eligible claimant (the *parties*) if any of the following apply—
 - (a) the petroleum authority holder has carried out a preliminary activity;
 - (b) the parties can not reach agreement about a conduct and compensation agreement;
 - (c) there is a conduct and compensation agreement or deferral agreement between the parties.
- (2) The Land Court may do all or any of the following—
 - (a) assess all or part of the relevant petroleum authority holder's compensation liability to another party;
 - (b) decide a matter related to the compensation liability;
 - (c) declare whether or not a proposed authorised activity for the relevant petroleum authority would, if carried out, interfere with the carrying out of lawful activities by the eligible claimant;
 - (d) make any order it considers necessary or desirable for a matter mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c).

Example—

The Land Court declares that a particular proposed authorised activity interferes with the carrying out of lawful activities by the eligible claimant. It may also order that a stated modification of, or reduction in, the activity would remove the interference.

537DC Jurisdiction to impose or vary conditions

- (1) In deciding a matter mentioned in section 537DB(2), the Land Court may—
 - (a) impose any condition it considers appropriate for the exercise of the parties' rights; or
 - (b) vary any existing condition under an agreement between the parties.
- (2) The variation may be made on any ground the Land Court considers appropriate.
- (3) The imposed or varied condition is taken to be—
 - (a) if there is an agreement between the parties—a condition of the agreement; or
 - (b) if there is no agreement between the parties—an agreement between the parties.
- (4) In this section—

agreement means a conduct and compensation agreement.

condition means a condition of or for a conduct and compensation agreement.

Subdivision 7 Miscellaneous provision**537E Compensation not affected by change in ownership or occupancy**

- (1) A conduct and compensation agreement or a Land Court decision under this part is for the benefit of, and is taken to have been agreed to or decided for and is binding on, the following—
 - (a) the relevant eligible claimant;
 - (b) the petroleum authority holder;
 - (c) each of their successors and assigns including successors and assigns for the area of the relevant petroleum authority.
- (2) Subsection (1) is subject to section 537C.

Division 2 Compensation for notifiable road uses

Part 6 Ownership of pipelines, equipment and improvements

Division 1 Pipelines

538 Application of div 1

This division applies for a pipeline constructed or operated under a petroleum tenure²¹⁴ or pipeline licence.

539 General provision about ownership while tenure or licence is in force for pipeline

- (1) This section applies while the land on which the pipeline is constructed is, and continues to be, land in the area of the petroleum tenure or licence.
- (2) The pipeline is taken to be the personal property of the holder of the petroleum tenure or pipeline licence.
- (3) The pipeline remains the holder's personal property despite—
 - (a) it having become part of the land; or
 - (b) the sale or other disposal of the land.
- (4) The pipeline can not be—
 - (a) levied or seized in execution; or
 - (b) sold in exercise of a power of sale or otherwise disposed of by a process under a law of a State taken against the holder, or the owner of the land.
- (5) Subsections (2) to (4) apply despite—

214 See sections 33 (Incidental activities) and 110 (Petroleum pipeline and water pipeline construction and operation).

- (a) an Act or law of a State; or
- (b) a contract, covenant or claim of right under a law of a State.

540 Ownership afterwards

- (1) Section 539 applies and continues to apply for the pipeline, and for any subsequent pipeline licence for the pipeline, if the petroleum tenure or pipeline licence ends or the land on which the pipeline is constructed ceases to be in the area of the petroleum tenure or licence.
- (2) However, the section is subject to—
 - (a) section 580; and
 - (b) any condition of the former petroleum tenure or any takeover or other condition of the former licence.
- (3) Also, if the pipeline is decommissioned under section 559 the petroleum tenure or licence holder, or former petroleum tenure or licence holder, may dispose of it to anyone else.

Division 2 Equipment and improvements

541 Application of div 2

- (1) This division applies if—
 - (a) equipment or improvements are taken, constructed or placed on land in the area of a petroleum authority; and
 - (b) the equipment or improvements were taken, constructed or placed on the land for use for an authorised activity for the authority; and
 - (c) the authority continues in force.
- (2) However, this division—
 - (a) does not apply for a pipeline;²¹⁵ and

215 For pipelines, see sections 559 (Obligation to decommission pipelines) and 539 (General provision about ownership while tenure or licence is in force for pipeline).

- (b) is subject to part 12.
- (3) In this section—
 - equipment* includes machinery and plant.
 - improvements*—
 - (a) does not include a petroleum well, water observation bore or water supply bore; but
 - (b) does include any works constructed in connection with the well or bore.

542 Ownership of equipment and improvements

- (1) While the equipment or improvements are on the land, they remain the property of the person who owned them immediately before they were taken, constructed or placed on the land, unless that person otherwise agrees.²¹⁶
- (2) However, for a petroleum well, water observation bore or water supply bore, subsection (1) is subject to chapter 2, part 10, divisions 3 and 4.
- (3) Subsection (1) applies despite—
 - (a) the plant or equipment having become part of the land; or
 - (b) the sale or other disposal of the land.
- (4) The equipment or improvements can not be—
 - (a) levied or seized in execution; or
 - (b) sold in exercise of a power of sale or otherwise disposed of by a process under a law of a State taken against the holder, or the owner of the land.
- (5) This section applies despite—
 - (a) an Act or law of a State; or
 - (b) a contract, covenant or claim of right under a law of a State.

²¹⁶ See however section 560 (Obligation to remove equipment and improvements).

Part 7 Reporting

Division 1 Reporting provisions for petroleum tenures

Subdivision 1 General provisions²¹⁷

543 Requirement of petroleum tenure holder to report outcome of testing

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an authority to prospect holder carries out testing mentioned in section 73(1); or
 - (b) a petroleum lease holder carries out testing mentioned in section 152(1).
- (2) The holder must, within 40 business days after the testing ends, lodge a report stating the outcome of the test at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging testing outcome reports, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) The report must also state how much associated water was taken during the testing.

544 Notice by petroleum tenure holder about discovery and commercial viability

- (1) If a petroleum tenure holder makes a petroleum discovery, the holder must, within 5 business days, lodge a notice of the discovery.
- (2) For subsection (1), if a petroleum tenure holder explores or tests for coal seam gas—

²¹⁷ See also section 367 (Requirement for giving of copy of relinquishment report).

- (a) the discovery of the presence of coal seam gas in a coal seam is not, of itself, a petroleum discovery; and
 - (b) the holder discovers coal seam gas only if it is actually produced from a petroleum well used for the exploration or testing.
- (3) A notice under subsection (1) must also state the geological significance of the discovery.
- (4) The holder, must within the relevant period, lodge a notice about whether or not petroleum production from the reservoir the subject of the notice is commercially viable, or potentially commercially viable, for the holder.
- (5) A notice under this section must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (6) In this section—
- relevant period*** means—
- (a) if the petroleum tenure is an authority to prospect—
 - (i) the period of 40 business days after the end of the period under section 73(2) for the carrying out of production testing; or
 - (ii) if the Minister has, within 40 business days, agreed to a longer period—the longer period; or
 - (b) if the petroleum tenure is a petroleum lease—
 - (i) the period of 40 business days after the end of the period under section 152(2) for the carrying out of production testing; or
 - (ii) if the Minister has, within 40 business days, agreed to a longer period—the longer period.

545 Relinquishment report by tenure holder

- (1) If part of the area of a petroleum tenure is relinquished as required or authorised under this Act,²¹⁸ its holder must, within 6 months, lodge a report—
- (a) describing—
 - (i) the authorised activities for the tenure carried out in the part; and
 - (ii) the results of the activities; and
 - (b) including other information prescribed under a regulation.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (2) The report must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging relinquishment reports, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.²¹⁹

546 End of tenure report

- (1) If a petroleum tenure or water monitoring authority ends, the person who held the tenure or authority immediately before it ended must, within 6 months, lodge a report—
- (a) including each of the following—
 - (i) a summary of all authorised activities for the tenure or authority that have been carried out since it took effect;
 - (ii) a summary of the results of the activities;
 - (iii) an index of all reports lodged, as required under this Act, in relation to the activities;

218 See chapter 2, part 1, division 4, subdivision 2 (Standard relinquishment condition and related provisions), sections 62(4) (Deciding application), 148 (Power to require relinquishment), 329 (Power to impose relinquishment condition) and 790 (Types of noncompliance action that may be taken).

219 See also section 367 (Requirement for giving of copy of relinquishment report).

- (iv) a summary of all significant hazards created to future safe and efficient mining that, under section 690(1)(f) or 706 or a regulation, are required to be reported;
 - (v) for each hazard mentioned in the summary under subparagraph (iv)—a reference to the report that contains details of the hazard;
 - (vi) information about the amount and location of all petroleum and water produced from the area of the tenure or authority;
 - (vii) any information related to information mentioned in subparagraph (vi) that may help the understanding of the amount and location of any remaining petroleum (including areas of ‘free gas’) and water from reservoirs produced;
 - (viii) any information required to be reported under this Act that has not been previously reported; and
- (b) stating any other information prescribed under a regulation.

Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.²²⁰

- (2) A report under subsection (1) must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the report, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

546A End of authority report for data acquisition authority or survey licence

- (1) This section applies if a data acquisition authority or survey licence ends.
- (2) The person who held the authority or licence immediately before it ended must, within 6 months, lodge a report about

²²⁰ See also section 552(4) (Obligation to lodge annual reports for pipeline or petroleum facility licence).

the matters relating to the former authority or licence as prescribed under a regulation.

Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.

- (3) The report must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the report, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Subdivision 2 Records and samples

547 Requirement to keep records and samples

- (1) A petroleum tenure holder must, for the period and in the way prescribed under a regulation, keep the records and samples about authorised activities carried out under the petroleum tenure as prescribed under a regulation.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) For subsection (1), the prescribed records may be—
- (a) exploration data; or

Examples of exploration data—

 - seismic acquisition and processing reports
 - information obtained from airborne geophysical surveying
 - other information about petroleum or other materials at or below ground level
 - a well completion report for an exploration or appraisal well
 - (b) opinions, conclusions, technical consolidations and advanced interpretations based on exploration data.

548 Requirement to lodge records and samples

- (1) A person who, under section 547, is required to keep a record or sample, must, for the services of the State, lodge a copy of the record and a part of the sample within 6 months after the earlier of the following (the *required time*)—

- (a) the day the record or sample was acquired or made;
- (b) the day the relevant petroleum tenure ends.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) The copy of the record must—
 - (a) be lodged electronically using the system for submission of reports made or approved by the chief executive; and
 - (b) be in the digital format made or approved by the chief executive.
- (3) The chief executive must ensure the system and a document detailing the digital format made or approved by the chief executive are available for inspection on the department's website.
- (4) The part of the sample must be lodged at the following office (the *relevant office*)—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the part of the sample, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (5) If the chief executive gives the person a notice asking the person for more of the sample, the person must lodge it at the relevant office within the reasonable time stated in the notice (also the *required time*) unless the holder has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (6) The chief executive may extend the required time by up to 1 year if—
 - (a) the person asks for the extension before the required time; and
 - (b) the chief executive is satisfied the extension is necessary.
- (7) However, the extension must not end later than—
 - (a) for subsection (1)—6 months after the required time; or

- (b) for subsection (5)—1 year after the required time.
- (8) Without limiting subsection (1), the use to which the State may put the copy of the record and the part of the sample include the building of a publicly available database to facilitate petroleum exploration for the services of the State.

Subdivision 3 Releasing required information

549 Meaning of *required information*

Required information, for a petroleum tenure, is information (in any form) about authorised activities carried out under the tenure that the tenure holder has lodged under this Act, including, for example—

- (a) a sample; and
- (b) data and other matters mentioned in section 553(2).

550 Public release of required information

- (1) The mere fact of the existence of a petroleum tenure is taken to be an authorisation from its holder to the chief executive to do the following, after the end of any confidentiality period prescribed under a regulation—
 - (a) publish, in the way prescribed under a regulation, required information for the tenure for public use, including, for example, to support petroleum exploration, production and development;
 - (b) on payment of a fee prescribed under a regulation, make it available to any person.
- (2) Any confidentiality period prescribed under subsection (1) ceases if the information is about an authorised activity carried out solely in an area that is no longer in the area of the petroleum tenure.

Example—

The required information is a well completion report about a well drilled on particular land in the area of an authority to prospect. Subsection (1)

ceases to apply if all of that land is relinquished under the relinquishment condition.

- (3) The authorisation is not affected by the ending of the tenure.

551 Chief executive may use required information

- (1) The mere fact of the existence of a petroleum tenure is taken to be an authorisation from its holder to the chief executive to use required information for —
- (a) purposes reasonably related to this Act that are required for the tenure; or
 - (b) the services of the State.
- (2) The authorisation is not affected by the ending of the tenure.

Division 2 Other reporting provisions

552 Obligation to lodge annual reports for pipeline or petroleum facility licence

- (1) This section applies for a pipeline licence or petroleum facility licence.
- (2) The holder of the licence must, within 2 months after each of its anniversary days, lodge a report for the 12 months that ended on the last anniversary day that includes the information about the licence as prescribed under a regulation.
- Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.
- (3) If the licence ends, the person who was its holder immediately before it ended must, within 2 months, lodge a report that includes the information prescribed under subsection (2) for the period from its last anniversary day to when it ended.
- Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.
- (4) A report under this section must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the report, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

(5) In this section—

anniversary day, for a licence, means each day that is the anniversary of the day the licence took effect.

553 Power to require information or reports about authorised activities to be kept or given

(1) A regulation, or the chief executive, may, for the services of the State, require a petroleum authority holder to—

(a) keep stated information, or types of information, about authorised activities carried out under the petroleum authority; or

Example of a prescribed way of keeping information—

in a stated digital format

(b) lodge a notice giving stated information, or types of information, or stated reports at stated times or intervals about authorised activities carried out under the petroleum authority.

Example of a stated time—

for a report about a petroleum well, 6 months after its completion

(2) For subsection (1), the information or report required to be given or kept may be—

(a) exploration data; or

Examples of exploration data—

- seismic acquisition, processing and interpretation reports
- information obtained from airborne geophysical surveying
- other information about petroleum or other materials at or below ground level
- a well completion report for an exploration or appraisal well

(b) opinions, conclusions, technical consolidations and advanced interpretations based on exploration data.

(3) A notice under subsection (1)(b)—

(a) may state—

(i) a format required for giving the information; and

- (ii) a degree of precision required for the giving of the information; and
- (b) must be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging reports under this section, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (4) A copy of a notice under subsection (1)(b) must be given to both the owners and occupiers of affected land in the way and at the times prescribed under a regulation.
- (5) A person of whom a requirement under subsection (1) has been made must comply with the requirement.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

- (6) In this section—

affected land means land on which an authorised activity is, or has been, carried out.

information includes documents, records and samples.

services of the State has the same meaning that the term has in relation to the State of Queensland under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cwlth), section 183(1).

553A Giving copy of required notice by publication

- (1) This section applies if, under section 553(4), a regulation requires a petroleum authority holder to give owners and occupiers of affected land a copy of a notice about authorised activities carried out under the petroleum authority.
- (2) The chief executive may approve the petroleum authority holder giving the notice by publishing it in a stated way.
- (3) The publication may relate to more than 1 notice.
- (4) The chief executive may give the approval only if satisfied—
 - (a) if the notice is required to be given before an authorised activity is carried out—the publication is reasonably likely to adequately inform the owner or occupier of

- affected land at least 10 business days before the authorised activity is carried out; or
- (b) if the notice is required to be given after an authorised activity is carried out—the publication is reasonably likely to adequately inform the owner or occupier of affected land.
- (5) If the chief executive approves the giving of the notice under subsection (2)—
- (a) the notice may state where a copy of further information referred to in the publication may be obtained, or inspected, free of charge; and
 - (b) the holder is not required to comply with section 553(4).
- (6) In this section—
- affected land*** means land on which an authorised activity is, or has been, carried out.

553B Copy of particular notices for chief executive (environment)

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a regulation requires a petroleum authority holder to lodge a notice under section 553(1)(b); and
 - (b) the petroleum authority holder lodges the notice as required.
- (2) The chief executive must give the chief executive (environment) a copy of the notice.
- (3) In this section—
- chief executive (environment)*** means the chief executive of the department in which the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* is administered.

Part 8 **General provisions for conditions and authorised activities**

Division 1 **Other mandatory conditions for all petroleum authorities**

554 **Operation of div 1**

This division provides for general mandatory conditions for all petroleum authorities.

Notes—

- 1 The following provisions also impose mandatory conditions on all petroleum authorities—
 - chapter 2, part 1, divisions 1 and 4
 - chapter 2, part 2, divisions 1 and 5
 - chapter 2, part 10
 - chapter 3, part 4, division 4
 - chapter 5.
- 2 For what is a mandatory condition, see section 20(2).

555 **Compliance with land access code**

A petroleum authority holder must—

- (a) comply with the mandatory provisions of the land access code to the extent it applies to the holder; and
- (b) ensure any other person carrying out an authorised activity for the petroleum authority complies with the mandatory provisions of the land access code.

557 **Obligation to comply with Act and prescribed standards**

- (1) The holder of a petroleum authority must—
 - (a) comply with this Act; and
 - (b) in carrying out an authorised activity for the authority, comply with—

- (i) any standard that the authority provides for the activity; and
 - (ii) to the extent that the authority does not provide a standard for the activity—any standard prescribed under a regulation for carrying out the activity.
- (2) In this section—

standard includes an Australian Standard, an international standard or a code or protocol.

Note—

For prescribed standards for GHG stream pipelines in the area of a GHG tenure, see the GHG storage Act, section 331.

558 Obligation to survey if Minister requires

- (1) The Minister may, by notice to the holder of a petroleum authority, require the holder to survey or re-survey the area of the authority within a stated reasonable period.
- (2) The holder must cause the survey or re-survey to be carried out by a person registered as a cadastral surveyor under the *Surveyors Act 2003*.
- (3) The holder must pay any costs incurred in complying with the notice.

558A Notice of change of holder's name

- (1) This section applies if there is a change to a petroleum authority holder's name and the holder continues to be same person after the change.

Note—

A change of holder itself must be a dealing and must be approved under part 10 before it can have any effect. See sections 568 and 570.

- (2) The holder must give the chief executive notice of the change as soon as practicable.
- (3) The notice must be in the approved form.

Division 2 Provisions for when authority ends or area reduced

559 Obligation to decommission pipelines

- (1) The holder of a petroleum authority must, before the decommissioning day, decommission, in the way prescribed under a regulation, any pipeline in the area of the authority.

Maximum penalty—2000 penalty units.²²¹

- (2) However, subsection (1)—
- (a) does not apply if the pipeline was constructed or operated under another petroleum authority; and
 - (b) ceases to apply if the operation of the pipeline becomes an authorised activity for another petroleum authority.
- (3) Also, subsection (1) does not apply for a pipeline if—
- (a) the petroleum authority is a pipeline licence; and
 - (b) the licence is surrendered or otherwise ends for the purpose of the pipelines the subject of the licence becoming the subject of another pipeline licence.

- (4) In this section—

decommissioning day means the later of the following days—

- (a) the earlier of the following—
 - (i) the day the authority ends;
 - (ii) the day the land ceases to be in the area of the authority;
- (b) if, before the day provided for under paragraph (a), the Minister fixes a day—that day;
- (c) if, before a day fixed under paragraph (b), the Minister fixes a later day—that day.

221 See also section 539(3) and (4) (General provision about ownership while tenure or licence is in force for pipeline).

560 Obligation to remove equipment and improvements

- (1) This section applies for equipment or improvements in the area of a petroleum authority or on access land for the authority that are being, or have been, used for an authorised activity for the authority.
- (2) However, this section does not apply for—
 - (a) a petroleum well, pipeline, water observation bore or water supply bore;²²² or
 - (b) equipment or improvements on land that, under section 101, ceases to be in the area of an authority to prospect.
- (3) The authority holder must, before the removal day, remove the equipment or improvements from the land, unless the owner of the land otherwise agrees.

Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.

- (4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that subsection (3) applies even if the equipment or improvements are not owned by the holder.²²³
- (5) In this section—

equipment includes machinery and plant.

removal day means the later of the following days—

- (a) the earlier of the following—
 - (i) the day the authority ends;
 - (ii) the day the land ceases to be in the area of the authority;
- (b) if, before the day provided for under paragraph (a), the Minister fixes a day—that day;

222 For petroleum wells, water observation bores and supply bores, see chapter 2, part 10 (General provisions for petroleum wells, water supply bores and water observation bores).

For pipelines, see sections 539 (General provision about ownership while tenure or licence is in force for pipeline) and 559 (Obligation to decommission pipelines).

223 For ownership of the equipment or improvements see section 542 (Ownership of equipment and improvements).

- (c) if, before a day fixed under paragraph (b), the Minister fixes a later day—that day.

561 Authorisation to enter to facilitate compliance with s 555 or div 2

- (1) The Minister may, by notice, authorise a former holder of a petroleum authority to enter any of the following land to comply with, or remedy a contravention of, section 555 or this division—
 - (a) the land to which section 555 or this division applies (*primary land*);
 - (b) any other land (*secondary land*) necessary or desirable to cross for access to the primary land.²²⁴
- (2) Parts 2 (other than division 3), 3 and 5 and sections 20 and 557 apply to the former holder for the purpose of the authorisation as if—
 - (a) the authority were still in force (the *notional authority*); and
 - (b) the former holder is the holder of the notional authority; and
 - (c) the primary land and any secondary land are in the area of the notional authority; and
 - (d) the compliance or the remedying of the contravention were authorised activities for the notional authority.
- (3) However, the power under this section does not include the power to enter a structure, or a part of a structure, used for residential purposes without the consent of the occupier of the structure or part of the structure.
- (4) If the former holder intends to enter the land and any occupier of the land is present at the land, the former holder also must show, or make a reasonable attempt to show, the occupier the former holder's authorisation under this section.

²²⁴ See also section 580 (Power of authorised person to ensure compliance).

Division 3 Provisions for authorised activities

562 General restriction on carrying out authorised activities

The carrying out of an authorised activity for a petroleum authority is subject to—

- (a) the provisions of the authority; and
- (b) compliance with the authority holder's rights and obligations under this chapter and chapters 2, 3, 4 and 9.

563 Who may carry out authorised activity for petroleum authority holder

(1) An authorised activity for a petroleum authority may be carried out for the holder by any of the following persons acting within the scope of the person's authority from the holder—

- (a) if the holder is a corporation—its officers and employees;
- (b) the holder's employees or partners who are individuals;
- (c) agents of, or contractors for, the holder;
- (d) officers and employees of, or agents of, or contractors for, agents or contractors mentioned in paragraph (c).

Example—

A petroleum lease holder may also enter into a coordination arrangement under which another party to the arrangement may carry out an authorised activity for the lease. See section 234(1).

(2) The authority may be express, or implied from—

- (a) the nature of the relationship between the person and the holder; or
- (b) the duties the person performs for the holder; or
- (c) the duties a person mentioned in subsection (1) customarily performs.

563A Limitation of owner's or occupier's tortious liability for authorised activities

- (1) This section applies to an owner or occupier of land in the area of a petroleum authority if—
 - (a) someone else carries out an authorised activity for a petroleum authority on the land; or
 - (b) someone else carries out an activity on the land and, in doing so, purports to be carrying out an authorised activity for a petroleum authority.
- (2) The owner or occupier is not civilly liable to anyone else for a claim based in tort for damages relating to the carrying out of the activity.
- (3) However, subsection (2) does not apply to the extent the owner or occupier, or someone else authorised by the owner or occupier, caused, or contributed to, the harm the subject of the claim.
- (4) This section applies—
 - (a) despite any other Act or law; and
 - (b) even though this Act or the petroleum authority prevents or restricts the carrying out of the activity as an authorised activity for the authority.
- (5) Subject to subsection (2), in this section, the terms *claim*, *damages* and *harm* have the same meaning that they have under the *Civil Liability Act 2003*.

Part 9 Petroleum register

564 Petroleum register

- (1) The chief executive must keep a register of details about—
 - (a) petroleum authorities; and
 - (b) coordination arrangements; and

- (c) mortgages and subleases of petroleum authorities mentioned in section 568.
- (2) The chief executive may also keep in the register information that the chief executive considers appropriate about matters relating to this Act or another Act.

565 Keeping of register

- (1) The chief executive must include in the petroleum register the information prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) If, under this Act, there is a change relating to information required to be kept in the register or to information that, under section 564(2) the chief executive keeps in the register, the chief executive must—
 - (a) amend the register to reflect the change; and
 - (b) record in the register—
 - (i) when the information was amended; and
 - (ii) for a dealing approved under part 10—when it took effect or is to take effect.
- (3) For subsection (2), if the change requires approval under this Act, the change happens when the approval takes effect.

566 Access to register

- (1) The chief executive must—
 - (a) keep the petroleum register open for inspection by the public during office hours on business days at the places the chief executive considers appropriate; and
 - (b) allow a person, on payment of the fee prescribed under a regulation, to search and take extracts from the register; and
 - (c) give a person who asks for a copy of all or part of a notice, a document or information held in the register the copy on payment of the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) This section is subject to section 566A.

566A Arrangements with other departments for copies from petroleum register

- (1) Despite section 566, the chief executive may enter into an arrangement with another department allowing it to carry out a search of, take extracts from or obtain a copy of, particulars recorded in the petroleum register, without payment of the fees prescribed under section 566.
- (2) However, the chief executive may enter into an arrangement under subsection (1) only if the chief executive is reasonably satisfied the information obtained from the copy will not be—
 - (a) used for a commercial purpose, including, for example, the marketing or sale of the information or other information; or
 - (b) included in another database of information, in any form, other than with chief executive's approval.

566B Supply of statistical data from petroleum register

- (1) The chief executive may enter into an agreement to supply statistical data derived from instruments or information kept in the petroleum register.
- (2) If the chief executive supplies statistical data under subsection (1)—
 - (a) the fees and charges applying for the supply of the data are the fees and charges provided for in the agreement; and
 - (b) without limiting paragraph (a), the agreement may also state—
 - (i) how the fees and charges are to be calculated; and
 - (ii) how payment of the fees and charges is to be made.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (1), an agreement for the supply of statistical data may limit the use to which the data supplied may be put.
- (4) An agreement for the supply of statistical data must include—
 - (a) a provision allowing the chief executive to exclude particulars from data supplied under the agreement, if the chief executive is satisfied, on reasonable grounds,

- that inclusion of the particulars may result in the particulars being inappropriately disclosed or used; and
- (b) a provision allowing the chief executive to prohibit disclosure, or to limit distribution or use, of data supplied under the agreement.
- (5) An agreement under this section must not provide for the obtaining of information or anything else that may be obtained under section 566.
 - (6) The chief executive must exclude petroleum authority particulars and personal information from data supplied under the agreement.
 - (7) Subsection (6) applies despite anything in the agreement.
 - (8) In this section—

personal information means a particular from any instrument or information kept by the chief executive that may allow a person to identify a person to whom the instrument or information relates.

petroleum authority particulars means particulars from any instrument or information kept by the chief executive that may allow a person to identify a petroleum authority to which the instrument or information relates.

567 Chief executive may correct register

- (1) The chief executive may correct the petroleum register if satisfied—
 - (a) the register is incorrect; and
 - (b) the correction will not prejudice the rights, recorded in the register, of a petroleum authority holder, a person who holds an interest in a petroleum authority or a person who is a party to a coordination arrangement.
- (2) The power to correct includes power to correct information in the register or a document forming part of the register.
- (3) If the register is corrected, the chief executive must record in it—
 - (a) the state of the register before the correction; and

- (b) the time, date and circumstances of the correction.
- (4) A correction under this section has the same effect as if the relevant error had not been made.
- (5) For subsection (1)(b), a right is not prejudiced if the relevant person acquired or has dealt with the right with actual or constructive knowledge that the register was incorrect and how it was incorrect.

Part 10 Dealings

Division 1 Dealings

568 What is a *dealing*

- (1) Each of the following is a *dealing*—
 - (a) a transfer of a petroleum authority, or of a share in a petroleum authority;
 - (b) a mortgage of a petroleum authority, or a share in a petroleum authority;
 - (c) a release, transfer or surrender of a mortgage mentioned in paragraph (b);
 - (d) a sublease, or a share in a sublease, of a petroleum lease;
 - (e) a transfer of a sublease mentioned in paragraph (d).
- (2) However, a *dealing* with a petroleum authority does not include a prohibited dealing mentioned in section 569(1).
- (3) In this section—
transfer includes—
 - (a) a transmission by death; and
 - (b) a transfer by operation of law.

Example—

A petroleum authority is held by individuals as joint tenants and one of them dies. A transfer in relation to the authority includes

a record of the death, to record the passing by survivorship of the deceased holder's share of the authority to the other holders.

569 Prohibited dealings

- (1) The following dealings are prohibited—
- (a) a transfer of a survey licence;
 - (b) a transfer of a pipeline authorised under section 33 or 110;²²⁵
 - (c) a dealing that has the effect of transferring a divided part of the area of a petroleum tenure;
Examples of a divided part of the area of a petroleum tenure—
 - a specific part of the surface of the area
 - a specific strata beneath the surface of the area
 - (d) a transfer of a pipeline licence, unless the pipelines the subject of the licence and the pipeline land for the licence are also to be transferred to the transferee of the pipeline licence;
 - (e) a transfer of a petroleum facility licence, unless the petroleum facility and petroleum facility land the subject of the licence are also to be transferred to the transferee of the licence;
 - (f) a transfer of a water monitoring authority, or of a share in a water monitoring authority, other than a transfer by operation of law under section 201;
 - (g) a transfer of a data acquisition authority, or of a share in a data acquisition authority, other than a transfer by operation of law under section 182.
- (2) A dealing or transfer prohibited under subsection (1) is of no effect.

225 Section 33 (Incidental activities) or 110 (Petroleum pipeline and water pipeline construction and operation)

See also part 6 (Ownership of pipelines, equipment and improvements), division 1 (Pipelines).

570 Condition for dealings

- (2) A dealing has no effect until it has been approved under division 2.
- (3) A dealing, once approved, takes effect on—
 - (a) the day the dealing is concluded; or
 - (b) if, under section 573(5), the approval provides for a later day for the dealing to take effect—that later day.
- (4) The approval of a dealing does not of itself give it any more effect or validity than it would have had, had subsection (2) not been enacted.

Division 2 Obtaining approval for dealing**571 Minister may give indication for proposed dealing**

- (1) A party to a proposed dealing may ask the Minister, before concluding the dealing, to indicate—
 - (a) whether the Minister is likely to approve of it; and
 - (b) if conditions are likely to be imposed on the dealing—what the conditions are likely to be.
- (2) The request may be made in any way the Minister considers appropriate.
- (3) However, the Minister must not consider the request unless the request fee prescribed under a regulation has been paid.
- (4) The party must give the Minister the information the Minister requires to give the indication.
- (5) In considering the request the Minister must consider the matters mentioned in section 574 as if the request were an application for approval of a dealing.

572 Applying for approval

- (1) A holder of a relevant petroleum authority or interest who is party to a dealing may apply for approval of the dealing.
- (2) The application must be—

- (a) in the approved form; and
- (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging applications to approve dealings, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) accompanied by each of the following—
 - (i) the instrument for the dealing, signed by the parties to the dealing, and a copy of it certified to be a true copy of the original;
 - (ii) for a transfer of a share in a petroleum authority, a written consent to the transfer by—
 - (A) each person who holds that interest and each other person who holds a share of the authority; and
 - (B) if the interest is subject to a mortgage—the mortgagee;
 - (iii) the fee prescribed under a regulation.

573 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may decide to grant or refuse the approval.
- (2) However, for a transfer of a petroleum authority, other than an exempt transfer, the approval may be granted only if the proposed transferee—
 - (a) is a holder of the relevant environmental authority for the petroleum authority; and
 - (b) either—
 - (i) any financial assurance required under the Environmental Protection Act for the environmental authority has been given; or
 - (ii) the administering authority under that Act has given the Minister notice that the administering

authority has not required financial assurance under that Act from the proposed transferee for the environmental authority.

- (3) Also, the approval is taken to have been granted if—
- (a) the proposed dealing is any of the following—
 - (i) a mortgage of a petroleum authority or of a share in a petroleum authority;
 - (ii) a release, transfer or surrender of a mortgage mentioned in subparagraph (i);
 - (iii) a sublease, or a share in a sublease, of a petroleum lease;
 - (iv) a transfer of a sublease, or a share in a sublease, mentioned in subparagraph (iii); or
 - (b) all of the following apply—
 - (i) subsection (2) does not prevent the granting of the approval;
 - (ii) under section 571, an indication of the approval has been given for the proposed dealing;
 - (iii) if, under that section, an indication of likely conditions was given—the conditions are complied with within 6 months after the giving of the indication.
- (4) Despite subsection (3)(b), the approval is taken not to have been granted if—
- (a) the request for the indication contained incorrect material information or omitted material information; and
 - (b) had the Minister been aware of the discrepancy, the Minister would not have given the indication.
- (5) The approval may provide that it has effect from when the dealing was concluded or a later stated day.
- (6) The Minister may, as a condition of deciding to grant the approval, require the proposed transferee to give, under section 488, security for the petroleum authority as if the proposed transferee were an applicant for the authority.

- (6A) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the application may be refused.
- (7) On refusal of the approval, the applicant must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.
- (8) In this section—
- exempt transfer* means a transfer under which—
- (a) the proposed transferee is someone who holds the same Australian Business Number to any proposed transferor; or
 - (b) all of one holder's share in the petroleum authority will be transferred to another holder of the petroleum authority.

574 Criteria for decision

- (1) This section does not apply—
- (a) if, under section 573(3), the approval is taken to have been granted; or
 - (b) to an exempt transfer under section 573.
- (2) The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to approve the dealing include—
- (a) the application and any additional information given for the application; and
 - (b) for a transfer of a petroleum authority—the relevant criteria under chapter 2 or 4 to obtain the authority; and
 - (c) if the petroleum authority is a petroleum tenure, whether, in relation to the tenure—
 - (i) any petroleum royalty is payable and unpaid by its holder; or
 - (ii) the holder has failed to comply with section 594, 595, 599 or 602; and
 - (d) the public interest.

Part 11 Surrenders

574A Authority to prospect can not be surrendered

An authority to prospect can not be surrendered.

575 Requirements for surrendering another type of petroleum authority

- (1) The holder of a petroleum authority, other than an authority to prospect, may surrender all or part of the area of the authority only if, under this part—
 - (a) an application has been made for approval of the surrender; and
 - (b) the surrender has been approved.
- (2) In this section—

surrender, for a petroleum authority, does not include a relinquishment of an area if the relinquishment is required or authorised under—

 - (a) section 148; or
 - (b) a relinquishment condition for the authority; or
 - (c) a relinquishment requirement under section 791.

576 Requirements for making surrender application

- (1) A surrender application must be—
 - (a) in the approved form; and
 - (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging surrender applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (c) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

- (2) A surrender application must also be accompanied by a report by the applicant, containing the information prescribed under a regulation about—
- (a) authorised activities for the authority carried out on the area the subject of the application; and
 - (b) the results of the activities.

Maximum penalty for subsection (2)—150 penalty units.

577 Notice of application required for particular pipeline licences

- (1) This section applies only if the petroleum authority is a pipeline licence through which fuel gas is transported.
- (2) A surrender application can not be made for the authority unless the holder has, at least 3 months before the application is lodged, lodged a notice of the holder's intention to make the application (an *application notice*).
- (3) The application notice must—
- (a) state the reasons for the proposed surrender; and
 - (b) be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging application notices, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (4) The chief executive may, after the lodging of the application notice, give the holder notice requiring the holder to give the chief executive further relevant written information by a reasonable stated day.
- (5) The holder must comply with the chief executive's notice unless the holder has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty for subsection (5)—500 penalty units.

578 Deciding application

- (1) The Minister may approve a surrender only if—

- (a) up to the day the application was made, the holder had submitted all reports required to be submitted under this Act; and
 - (b) the Minister considers the surrender is not against the public interest; and
 - (c) for a surrender of all of the area of the petroleum authority—all of the relevant environmental authority has been cancelled or surrendered; and
 - (d) for a surrender of part the area of the petroleum authority—the relevant environmental authority has been amended or partially surrendered in a way that reflects the partial surrender of the petroleum authority.
- (2) The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to approve a surrender include the extent to which the applicant has complied with the conditions of the authority.
- (3) If the application is for part of the area of a petroleum authority, the surrender may be approved subject to the applicant's written agreement to the Minister amending the conditions applying to the rest of the area of the authority in a stated way that the Minister considers appropriate.²²⁶

579 Notice and taking effect of decision

- (1) On approval of a surrender, the applicant must be given notice of the decision.
- (2) A surrender takes effect on the day after the decision is made.
- (3) The applicant must be given an information notice about—
 - (a) a decision to refuse to approve a surrender; or
 - (b) a decision to approve a surrender subject to the applicant's written agreement to the Minister amending the petroleum authority in a stated way.
- (4) However, subsection (3) does not apply for an amendment mentioned in subsection (3)(b) if the applicant has agreed in writing to the amendment.

²²⁶ See section 848 (Power to correct or amend).

Part 12**Enforcement of end of authority and area reduction obligations****580 Power of authorised person to ensure compliance**

- (1) This section applies if the holder, or former holder, of a petroleum authority has not complied with section 292, 559 or 560 in relation to land (the *primary land*).
- (2) A person authorised (the *authorised person*) by the chief executive may, by complying with section 581, exercise the following powers (*remedial powers*)—
 - (a) enter the primary land and do all things necessary to ensure the requirement is complied with;
 - (b) enter any other land (*secondary land*) necessary or desirable to cross for access to the primary land.
- (3) However, remedial powers do not include power to enter a structure, or a part of a structure, used for residential purposes without the consent of the occupier of the structure or part of the structure.
- (4) The authorisation—
 - (a) must be written; and
 - (b) may be given on conditions the Minister considers appropriate.

581 Requirements for entry to ensure compliance

- (1) Remedial powers may be exercised in relation to the primary or secondary land under section 580 only if a following person is given notice of the proposed entry at least 10 business days before the proposed entry—
 - (a) if the land has an occupier—any occupier of the land;
 - (b) if the land does not have an occupier—its owner.
- (2) The notice must—
 - (a) identify the authorised person; and

- (b) describe the land; and
- (c) state—
 - (i) that the authorised person has, under this section, been authorised to enter the land; and
 - (ii) the purpose of the entry; and
 - (iii) the period of the entry.
- (3) The chief executive may approve the giving of the notice by publishing it in a stated way.
- (4) The chief executive may give the approval only if satisfied the publication is reasonably likely to adequately inform the person to whom the notice is required to be given of the proposed entry.
- (5) If the authorised person intends to enter the land and any occupier of the land is present at the land, the person also must show, or make a reasonable attempt to show, the occupier the person's authorisation under this section.

582 Duty to avoid damage in exercising remedial powers

In exercising remedial powers, a person must take all reasonable steps to ensure the person causes as little inconvenience, and does as little damage, as is practicable.

583 Notice of damage because of exercise of remedial powers

- (1) If a person exercising remedial powers damages land or something on it, the person must give the owner and any occupier of the land notice of the damage.
- (2) If for any reason it is not practicable to comply with subsection (1), the person must—
 - (a) leave the notice at the place where the damage happened; and
 - (b) ensure it is left in a conspicuous place and in a reasonably secure way.
- (3) The notice must state—
 - (a) particulars of the damage; and

- (b) that the owner or occupier may claim compensation under section 584 from the State.

584 Compensation for exercise of remedial powers

- (1) This section applies if an owner or occupier of land (the *claimant*) suffers a cost, damage or loss because of the exercise, or purported exercise, of remedial powers.
- (2) Compensation is payable to the claimant by the State for the cost, damage or loss.
- (3) The compensation may be claimed and ordered in a proceeding brought in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (4) The court may order the compensation only if it is satisfied it is just to make the order in the circumstances of the particular case.

585 Ownership of thing removed in exercise of remedial powers

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) remedial powers are exercised in relation to land; and
 - (b) in the exercise of the powers a thing is removed from the land; and
 - (c) immediately before the removal, the thing was the property of—
 - (i) the holder, or former holder, of a petroleum authority in relation to whom the powers were exercised; or
 - (ii) an agent of, or contractor for, the holder.
- (2) On the removal, the thing becomes the property of the State.
- (3) The State may deal with the thing as it considers appropriate, including, for example, by destroying it or giving it away.
- (4) The chief executive may deal with the thing for the State.

- (5) If the State sells the thing, the State may, after deducting the costs of the sale, return the net proceeds of the sale to the former owner of the thing.²²⁷

586 Recovery of costs of and compensation for exercise of remedial power

- (1) The State may recover from the responsible person as a debt any—
- (a) reasonable costs the State, or an authorised person under section 580, incurs in exercising a remedial power; and
 - (b) compensation payable by the State under section 584 in relation to the exercise of the remedial power.²²⁸
- (2) However, in any proceeding to recover the costs, any relevant net proceeds of sale mentioned in section 585 must be deducted from the amount claimed for the costs.
- (3) In this section—

relevant net proceeds of sale means proceeds of sale under which the thing sold was the property of the responsible person immediately before its removal under section 585.

responsible person means the holder, or former holder, of the petroleum authority in relation to which the remedial powers were exercised.

Part 13 Miscellaneous provisions

587 Minister's power to ensure compliance by petroleum authority holder

- (1) This section applies if—

227 See also section 586(2) (Recovery of costs of and compensation for exercise of remedial power).

228 See also section 841 (Additional orders that may be made on conviction).

- (a) the holder of a petroleum authority has not complied with a requirement, under this Act, of the holder; and
 - (b) no other provision of this Act allows someone other than the holder to ensure compliance with the requirement.
- (2) The Minister may take any action the Minister considers appropriate to ensure all or part of the requirement is complied with if—
- (a) subsections (3) and (4) have been complied with; or
 - (b) the holder has agreed to the Minister taking the action.
- (3) The Minister must give the holder notice—
- (a) stating the requirement and the action the Minister proposes to take; and
 - (b) inviting the holder to lodge, within a stated reasonable period, submissions about the proposed action at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (4) Any submissions lodged by the holder within the stated period must be considered before deciding to take the action.
- (5) A decision to take the action does not take effect until the holder is given an information notice about the decision.
- (6) The State may recover from the holder as a debt any reasonable costs it incurs in the exercise of the power under subsection (2).²²⁹

588 Interest on amounts owing to the State other than for petroleum royalty

- (1) This section does not apply in relation to petroleum royalty.²³⁰

²²⁹ See also section 841 (Additional orders that may be made on conviction).

²³⁰ For interest on unpaid petroleum royalty, see section 602 (Interest on unpaid petroleum royalty or additional petroleum royalty).

- (2) Interest is payable to the State on any amount owing under this Act by anyone to the State and unpaid from time to time after the relevant day.

Examples of an amount that may be owing under this Act—

annual or other rent, a civil penalty for nonpayment of annual rent or an annual licence fee

- (3) The interest accrues daily at the rate prescribed under a regulation on the unpaid amount for the period starting on the day immediately after the amount became payable and ending on the day the amount owing on which interest is payable is paid in full, both days inclusive.
- (4) Any amount received in payment of the unpaid amount or the interest must first be applied in payment of the interest.
- (5) Subsection (4) applies despite any order or direction of the payer.
- (6) In this section—

relevant day means the following—

- (a) for an amount for annual or other rent or a civil penalty for nonpayment of annual rent—the day that is 3 months after the last day for payment of the rent or civil penalty;
- (b) for another amount—the day the amount becomes owing.

589 Recovery of unpaid amounts

- (1) If a provision of this Act requires a petroleum authority holder to pay the State an amount (including interest) the State may recover the amount from the holder as a debt.
- (2) In this section—

holder includes a former holder of the authority in relation to which the remedial powers were exercised.

Chapter 6 Petroleum royalty

Part 1 Imposition of petroleum royalty

590 Imposition of petroleum royalty on petroleum producers

- (1) A petroleum producer must pay the State petroleum royalty for petroleum that the producer produces or that the producer accepts from an overlapping mining lease holder, under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CN.
- (2) The petroleum royalty—
 - (a) must be paid on or before the time prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (b) is payable at the rate prescribed under a regulation on the value of the petroleum at the prescribed time.
- (3) The value of petroleum for the petroleum royalty is the value provided for under a regulation or worked out in the way prescribed under a regulation.
- (4) This section is subject to any exemption under section 591 or 591A.

591 General exemptions from petroleum royalty

- (1) Petroleum produced on or after 31 December 2004 is exempt from the petroleum royalty if the Minister is satisfied—
 - (a) the petroleum was unavoidably lost before it could be measured; or
 - (b) the petroleum was used—
 - (i) if it was produced under a petroleum tenure or 1923 Act petroleum tenure—in the production of petroleum from that tenure; or
 - (ii) if the petroleum is coal seam gas—for mining the coal that produced the gas; or
 - (c) that, before the petroleum was produced in the State, it was produced outside the State and injected or

- reinjecting into a natural underground reservoir in the State; or
- (d) the petroleum is petroleum on which petroleum royalty has already been paid; or
 - (e) the petroleum was flared or vented as part of testing for the presence of petroleum during the drilling of a well.
- (2) However—
- (a) subsection (1) ceases to apply if, under chapter 2, part 6, division 3, the petroleum becomes the property of the State; and
 - (b) subsection (1)(c) does not apply if, after the petroleum royalty was paid, property in the petroleum is taken to have passed to the State under chapter 2, part 6, division 3.
- (3) Despite subsection (1)(b)(ii), if the first underground mining of coal in a mining lease commenced before 31 December 2004, petroleum produced on the mining lease and used beneficially for mining under the mining lease is exempt from petroleum royalty.
- (4) However, subsection (5) applies if the petroleum mentioned in subsection (1)(b)(ii) or subsection (3) is used to generate electricity that is—
- (a) partly used for mining under the mining lease; and
 - (b) partly used for another purpose.
- (5) Subsection (1)(b)(ii) and subsection (3) apply only to the proportion of the petroleum that is equivalent to the proportion of the electricity generated from the petroleum that is used for mining under the mining lease.
- (6) In this section—
- petroleum tenure* includes a 1923 Act petroleum tenure.

591A Exemption for production testing

- (1) This section applies if—

- (a) under section 73 or 152, a petroleum tenure holder carries out production testing in relation to a particular petroleum well (the *relevant well*); or
 - (b) under a 1923 Act petroleum tenure, the tenure holder carries out production testing in relation to a particular petroleum well (also the *relevant well*).
- (2) If—
- (a) petroleum produced from the relevant well is coal seam gas or natural gas; and
 - (b) the gas is flared or vented; and
 - (c) the gas is, within the period provided for under subsection (3) produced as part of the production testing;

petroleum royalty is only payable on the amount of the petroleum flared or vented during the period that is more than 3000000m³.

- (3) For subsection (2), the period is the shorter of the following—
- (a) the sum of all periods after 31 December 2004 for which, under section 73(2) or 152(2), or for a 1923 Act petroleum tenure, under the tenure, the production testing from the relevant well may be carried out;
 - (b) 13 months from the later of the following—
 - (i) the start of the production testing from the relevant well;
 - (ii) if the production testing had started before 31 December 2004, 31 December 2004.

592 Minister may decide measurement if not made or royalty information not given

- (1) If—
- (a) the measurement of, or information about, petroleum is required for the purpose of a royalty return; and
 - (b) the measurement has not been made or the information has not been given or lodged as required under this Act (whether or not a royalty return has been lodged);

the Minister may decide what the required measurement or information is.²³¹

- (2) The decided measurement or information is taken to be the required measurement or information.
- (3) On the making of the decision, the relevant petroleum producer must be given an information notice about the decision.
- (4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the decision does not relieve anyone of an obligation under this Act to make the measurement or give or lodge information.

Part 2 Royalty returns

592A Definition for pt 2

In this part—

quarter means each of the following 3 month periods in a year—

- (a) 1 January to 31 March;
- (b) 1 April to 30 June;
- (c) 1 July to 30 September;
- (d) 1 October to 31 December.

593 Application of pt 2

- (1) This part applies to a petroleum producer for each quarter in which—
 - (a) the producer produces petroleum; or
 - (b) petroleum that has, at any time, been produced by the producer is—

231 See also chapter 8 (Petroleum and fuel gas measurement) and section 801 (Petroleum producer's measurement obligations).

- (i) disposed of by the producer, by supplying it to anyone else, flaring or venting it or otherwise; or
 - (ii) stored for the producer in a natural underground reservoir.
- (2) This part applies whether or not the producer is or was, under part 1, required to pay petroleum royalty for the production.

594 Obligation to lodge royalty return

- (1) This section applies subject to sections 596 and 598.
- (2) The producer must, on or before the last business day of the month immediately following the quarter in which the petroleum was produced, disposed of or stored, lodge a written return containing the information prescribed under a regulation about the production, disposal or storage at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging royalty returns, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

Note—

The first quarterly return required to be lodged under this subsection is for the quarter ending 30 September 2008; see section 940.

- (3) A return under subsection (2) is a ***royalty return***.
- (4) Information prescribed under subsection (2) is the ***royalty information***.

595 Fee for late lodgement of royalty return

- (1) This section applies if —
 - (a) the producer does not lodge a royalty return for the production, disposal or storage; or
 - (b) a purported royalty return lodged for the production, disposal or storage does not contain all of the royalty information.

- (2) The obligation under section 594 to lodge a royalty return continues to apply until the section is complied with.
- (3) When the royalty return is lodged, the return must be accompanied by the late fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (4) The late fee applies and is payable as well as any penalty imposed under section 594.

596 Approval to use estimates for royalty return

- (1) The Minister may decide to give a producer an approval for the producer to give estimates of particular royalty information for 1 or more royalty returns.
- (2) The approval—
 - (a) may be given subject to conditions; and
 - (b) must state the period for which the approval is given.

597 Petroleum producer's obligations if use of estimates approved

- (1) This section applies if an approval is given under section 596, whether or not it has been withdrawn.
- (2) The producer must take any steps required by the Minister to verify whether estimates given under the approval are reasonably accurate.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (3) The producer must, on or before the last business day of the third month immediately following the end of the period for which the approval was given (the *approval period*), lodge a reconciliation return at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging royalty returns, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (4) The reconciliation return must state—

- (a) information required for royalty returns on the basis of the approval period; and
 - (b) what adjustments have been made to the petroleum royalty payable.
- (5) The producer must, on or before the last business day of the third month immediately following the end of the approval period, pay any shortfall in the petroleum royalty payable because of the use of the estimate.²³²

598 Obligation to disclose inaccurate information

- (1) If the producer discovers that information stated in a royalty return or in a reconciliation return lodged under section 597 is inaccurate, the producer must, as soon as practicable, disclose the inaccuracy to the Minister.
- (2) The inaccuracy may be disclosed in a royalty return.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not limit the ways in which the inaccuracy may be disclosed.

599 Annual royalty returns

- (1) This section applies to the producer for so long as, at any time during any royalty return period, there is petroleum—
 - (a) that is the property of the producer; and
 - (b) for which petroleum royalty is, or could be, payable by the producer.
- (2) The producer must lodge an annual royalty return for each royalty return period at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging royalty returns, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

²³² See also section 602 (Interest on unpaid petroleum royalty or additional petroleum royalty).

- (3) Each annual royalty return must—
- (a) state the royalty information for the royalty return period to which the return relates; and
 - (b) be lodged within 3 months after the end of the royalty return period to which the return relates.

- (4) In this section—

royalty return period means—

- (a) each 12 month period ending on the following day—
 - (i) 30 June or 31 December, as decided by the Minister and notified to the producer;
 - (ii) if no day has been notified under subparagraph (i), whichever of those days is first to happen after the later of the following—
 - (A) the commencement of this section;
 - (B) the producer first produces petroleum for which petroleum royalty is, or could be, payable by the producer; and
- (b) if, on the commencement of this section, the producer is not producing petroleum—the period from the commencement to the start of the first royalty return period under paragraph (a); and
- (c) if, on the commencement, the producer has property in petroleum for which petroleum royalty is, or could be, payable at any time—the 12 month period ending on the 30 June or 31 December to first happen after the commencement; and
- (d) each following 12 month period after the royalty return period that applies under paragraph (a), (b) or (c).

Part 3 Payment of petroleum royalty

600 Overpayments

- (1) This section applies if the actual amount paid by a petroleum producer for petroleum royalty is more than the petroleum royalty that was payable by the producer.
- (2) The Minister must refund the difference between the amount paid by the producer and the amount that was payable by the producer.
- (3) The refund may be made by crediting the difference against any amount the Minister is reasonably satisfied is, or will become, payable by the producer for petroleum royalty or unpaid petroleum royalty interest.
- (4) No interest is payable on the difference refunded.

601 Underpayments

- (1) This section applies, subject to sections 596 and 597, if an actual amount paid by a petroleum producer for petroleum royalty is less than the amount of the petroleum royalty that was payable by the producer.
- (2) The difference between the amount paid and the amount payable by the producer is taken to have been owing and unpaid as part of the petroleum royalty from when the royalty was payable by the producer under part 1.
- (3) If the difference—
 - (a) was brought about by the use of estimates in royalty returns, as approved under section 596; and
 - (b) is more than 15% of the petroleum royalty that was payable by the producer;the producer must pay the State an additional petroleum royalty of 25% of the difference.
- (4) Subsection (2) does not apply if the Minister, by notice to the producer, waives the requirement to pay under that subsection, in whole or part.

- (5) However, the Minister may waive the requirement only if the Minister is satisfied the producer made a genuine mistake and that, in the circumstances, the waiver is justified.
- (6) The additional petroleum royalty is taken to have been payable from the last day, under section 597(3), for lodgement by the producer of a reconciliation return in relation to the difference.

602 Interest on unpaid petroleum royalty or additional petroleum royalty

- (1) This section applies if a person does not pay an amount for petroleum royalty that is payable under part 1, or for additional petroleum royalty that is payable under section 601.
- (2) The Minister may, by notice, require the person to pay the State interest on the amount at the rate prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) Interest payable under subsection (2) is taken to form part of the petroleum royalty.
- (4) The interest accrues daily on the amount for the period starting on the day immediately after the amount became payable and ending on the day the amount owing on which interest is payable is paid in full, both days inclusive.

603 Recovery of unpaid petroleum royalty and interest

If a petroleum producer does not pay—

- (a) petroleum royalty for petroleum produced by the producer that is payable under part 1; or
- (b) additional petroleum royalty that is payable under section 601; or
- (c) unpaid petroleum royalty interest payable by the producer;

the State may recover from the producer as a debt the amount of the petroleum royalty or interest.²³³

233 See also section 850 (Joint and several liability for conditions and for debts to State).

604 Certificate of unpaid petroleum royalty

- (1) This section applies if the Minister is of the opinion, based on information available to the Minister and any estimate by the Minister, that an amount for petroleum royalty is payable and unpaid by a petroleum producer.
- (2) The Minister may give the producer a notice—
 - (a) stating that the Minister is of the opinion that the amount is payable and unpaid by the producer for petroleum royalty; and
 - (b) stating the facts and circumstances forming the basis for the opinion; and
 - (c) inviting the producer to lodge, at the following office, submissions, within a stated reasonable period, as to why the producer should not pay the amount—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) The Minister must consider any submissions lodged within the stated period by the producer.
- (4) If, after complying with subsection (3), the Minister is satisfied an amount for petroleum royalty is payable and unpaid by the producer, the Minister may give the producer a certificate stating that the amount is payable and unpaid.
- (5) The certificate must be accompanied by, or include, an information notice about the decision that the amount is payable and unpaid.
- (6) In any proceeding under or in relation to this Act, the certificate, or a copy of the certificate, is evidence that the amount is payable and unpaid by the producer.

Part 4 Monitoring payment of petroleum royalty

Division 1 Audits by approved auditors

605 Appointment and qualifications

- (1) The chief executive may appoint a person, whether or not a public service officer, as an approved auditor for this part.
- (2) However, the chief executive may appoint a person as an approved auditor only if—
 - (a) the person is—
 - (i) a member of CPA Australia who is entitled to use the letters ‘CPA’ or ‘FCPA’; or
 - (ii) a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia who is entitled to use the letters ‘CA’ or ‘FCA’; or
 - (iii) a member of the National Institute of Accountants who is entitled to use the letters ‘MNIA’, ‘FNIA’, ‘PNA’ or ‘FPNA’; or
 - (b) the chief executive is satisfied the person is qualified for appointment because the person has the necessary expertise or experience to carry out an audit under this division.
- (3) Also, a person who is not a public service officer can only be appointed as an approved auditor to audit petroleum producers who are named in the auditor’s instrument of appointment.
- (4) An appointment mentioned in subsection (3)—
 - (a) can only be for a period of 6 months; but
 - (b) may be renewed if the period of the renewed appointment is for no more than 6 months.

606 Appointment conditions and limit on powers

- (1) An approved auditor holds office on any conditions stated in—
 - (a) the auditor's instrument of appointment; or
 - (b) a signed notice given to the auditor; or
 - (c) a regulation.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the instrument of appointment, a signed notice given to the auditor or a regulation may—
 - (a) limit the auditor's functions or powers under this Act; or
 - (b) require the auditor to give the chief executive stated information or a report about the performance of the auditor's functions or the exercise of the auditor's powers.
- (3) In this section—

signed notice means a notice signed by the chief executive.

607 Issue of identity card

- (1) The chief executive must issue an identity card to each approved auditor.
- (2) The identity card must—
 - (a) contain a recent photo of the auditor; and
 - (b) contain a copy of the auditor's signature; and
 - (c) identify the person as an approved auditor under this Act; and
 - (d) state an expiry date for the card.
- (3) This section does not prevent the issue of a single identity card to a person for this Act and other purposes.

608 Production or display of identity card

- (1) In exercising a power or performing a function under this Act in relation to a person, an approved auditor must produce the

auditor's identity card for the person's inspection if asked by the person.

- (2) However, if it is not practicable to comply with subsection (1), the auditor must produce the identity card for the person's inspection at the first reasonable opportunity.

609 When approved auditor ceases to hold office

- (1) An approved auditor ceases to hold office if any of the following happens—
 - (a) the term of office stated in a condition of office ends;
 - (b) under another condition of office, the auditor ceases to hold office;
 - (c) the auditor's resignation takes effect.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit the ways an approved auditor may cease to hold office.
- (3) In this section—

condition of office means a condition on which the auditor holds office.

610 Revocation of approved auditor's appointment

The chief executive may revoke an approved auditor's appointment.

611 Resignation

An approved auditor may resign by a signed notice given to the chief executive.

612 Return of identity card

A person who ceases to be an approved auditor must return the person's identity card to the chief executive within 20 business days after ceasing to be an approved auditor, unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

613 Approved auditor's power to audit

- (1) An approved auditor may audit a petroleum producer to monitor whether—
 - (a) the producer has paid petroleum royalty as required under part 1; and
 - (b) petroleum royalty will be payable by the producer.
- (2) The decision to carry out the audit may be made on a random or other basis not directly connected with the producer.

614 Application of ch 10, pt 1, divs 2–4

Chapter 10, part 1, divisions 2 to 4 apply for an approved auditor carrying out, or proposing to carry out, functions under section 613 as if the auditor were an authorised officer carrying out, or proposing to carry out, functions of an authorised officer.

Division 2 Audits by auditor-general**615 Auditor-general's power to audit**

- (1) The auditor-general may, at the Minister's request, audit a petroleum producer to monitor whether—
 - (a) the producer has paid petroleum royalty as required under part 1; or
 - (b) petroleum royalty will be payable by the producer.
- (2) The request may be made on a random or other basis not directly connected with the producer.

616 Powers in carrying out audit

- (1) The auditor-general has, in carrying out an audit under section 615, all the powers the auditor-general has under the *Auditor-General Act 2009* as if—
 - (a) the petroleum producer were a public sector entity under that Act; and

- (b) the auditor-general were carrying out an audit under that Act in relation to the producer as a public sector entity; and
 - (c) a reference in section 46 of that Act to an audit of the consolidated fund account were a reference to an audit under section 615.
- (2) The *Auditor-General Act 2009*, sections 49 to 53 and 55 apply for the applied exercise of powers under subsection (1) as if a reference in the sections to the exercise of a power included the exercise of a power under subsection (1).
- (3) For the *Auditor-General Act 2009*, sections 53 and 55, as applied under subsection (2)—
- (a) a reference to the *Auditor-General Act 2009* includes a reference to this Act; and
 - (b) the reference in section 53(2) to duties includes a reference to the functions mentioned in section 615(1).

617 Report on audit

- (1) The auditor-general must after completing an audit under section 615, prepare a report about the audit and give the report to the Minister.
- (2) The report may state whether or not petroleum royalty is payable by the relevant petroleum producer, and its amount.
- (3) In any proceeding under or in relation to this Act to which the producer is a party, the report is evidence of any matter stated in the report.

Part 5 Disclosure and confidentiality

617A When Minister may disclose

- (1) The Minister may disclose personal confidential information relating to the administration of this chapter—

- (a) to the person to whom the information relates or, if either of the following apply, to someone else—
 - (i) with the consent, express or implied, of the person to whom the information relates;
 - (ii) who the Minister reasonably believes is acting for the person to whom the information relates; or
 - (b) if the disclosure is expressly permitted or required under an Act; or
 - (c) to the extent necessary to perform the Minister's functions under or relating to the administration or enforcement of this chapter; or
 - (d) to a person for the administration or enforcement of this chapter; or
 - (e) for any legal proceeding relating to this chapter.
- (2) Also, the Minister may disclose other confidential information to any person, or for any purpose, the Minister is satisfied is appropriate in the circumstances.
- (3) This section does not create a right in any person to be given personal confidential information.
- (4) In this section—
- personal confidential information* means confidential information that—
- (a) is not publicly available; and
 - (b) identifies, or is likely to identify, a person or discloses matters about a person's affairs.

617B Confidentiality

- (1) This section applies to a person who—
- (a) is or has been a public service officer or engaged to perform functions under this Act; and
 - (b) in that capacity has acquired information or has or had access to, or custody of, a document containing information relating to the administration of this chapter that is not publicly available.

- (2) This section also applies to a person to whom the Minister has disclosed information under section 617A, other than the person to whom the information relates.
- (3) The person must not—
- (a) make a record of the information; or
 - (b) whether directly or indirectly, divulge or communicate the information; or
 - (c) use the information to benefit any person.
- Maximum penalty—200 penalty units or 1 year's imprisonment.
- (4) However, subsection (3) does not apply if the record is made, or the information is divulged, communicated or used—
- (a) to the extent necessary to perform the person's functions under or relating to this chapter; or
 - (b) with the consent of the person to whom the information relates; or
 - (c) as required or permitted by law.

617C Refusal of disclosure of particular information

- (1) A person engaged in the administration or enforcement of this chapter can not be compelled to disclose to a court in a proceeding, or to a party to the proceeding—
- (a) information disclosed under or relating to this chapter (*confidential information*); or
 - (b) whether or not the person has received particular confidential information; or
 - (c) the identity of the source of particular confidential information.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a proceeding for the administration or enforcement of this chapter.

Chapter 7 Fuel gas quality and characteristics for consumers

Part 1 Preliminary

618 Application of ch 7

This chapter applies to the supply of fuel gas only if the gas supplied is for use by consumers of fuel gas.

619 Who is a *consumer* of fuel gas

- (1) A *consumer* of fuel gas is a person who—
 - (a) consumes, or proposes to consume, fuel gas by way of heating, lighting, motive power or in an industrial process; or
 - (b) uses, or proposes to use, fuel gas for refrigeration or another process.
- (2) Subsection (1)(b) applies even if the use does not result in the gas being consumed.

Part 2 Quality

Division 1 Quality restrictions

620 Prescribed quality

- (1) A regulation may prescribe a quality for fuel gas to be supplied to consumers (the *prescribed quality*).
- (2) The prescribed quality may be for the purity, composition or physical parameters of the gas.

Examples of physical parameters—
specific gravity and heating value

621 Restrictions on supplying gas not of prescribed quality

- (1) This section applies if a person (the *supplier*) proposes to supply fuel gas to someone else (the *recipient*) if—
 - (a) the gas is not of the prescribed quality; and
 - (b) a gas quality approval for the gas is not in force.²³⁴
- (2) The supplier must not supply the fuel gas to the recipient, unless—
 - (a) the recipient has agreed in writing to the supply; and
 - (b) the agreement—
 - (i) states that the gas is not of the prescribed quality; and
 - (ii) describes the quality of the gas; and
 - (c) the chief inspector has received the agreement, or a copy of it.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.²³⁵

- (3) An agreement that complies with subsection (2)(a) to (c) is a *gas quality agreement*.

Division 2 Gas quality approvals

622 Chief inspector's power to approve quality

- (1) The chief inspector may, on the chief inspector's own initiative or on application, approve the quality of fuel gas (a *gas quality approval*).
- (2) The application must be—
 - (a) in the approved form; and

²³⁴ See section 622 (Chief inspector's power to approve quality).

²³⁵ See however section 437 (Limitation of transmission pipeline licence holder's liability).

- (b) lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging applications for gas quality approvals, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief inspector; and
 - (c) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) A gas quality approval may be given for all or any of the following—
- (a) supply by a stated person;
 - (b) a stated period;
 - (c) supply to a stated consumer, or group of consumers, from a common source.

623 Criteria for approval

The chief inspector may issue a gas quality approval only if satisfied—

- (a) the quality of the gas is acceptable for supply to the relevant consumers; and
- (b) either—
 - (i) the approval is necessary to ensure sufficiency of gas supply to the relevant consumers; or
 - (ii) that stopping the supply to allow gas of the prescribed quality to be supplied is impractical or may cause a dangerous situation; or
 - (iii) it is impractical to seek the written approval of the relevant consumers to be supplied with gas of that quality.

624 Steps after making decision about approval

- (1) If the chief inspector issues a gas quality approval for supply by a person, the chief inspector must give the person notice of the approval.

- (2) The gas quality approval takes effect when the notice is given.
- (3) On refusal to issue a gas quality approval, the holder must be given an information notice about the decision to refuse.

625 Power to cancel approval

- (1) The chief inspector may decide to immediately cancel a gas quality approval if the chief inspector reasonably believes there may be an unacceptable risk to safety if the approval were to continue in force.
- (2) A cancellation under subsection (1) takes effect when the gas quality approval holder is given an information notice about the decision to cancel.
- (3) The chief inspector may, by complying with subsections (4) and (5), decide to cancel a gas quality approval for any other reason.
- (4) If the chief inspector proposes to cancel a gas quality approval under subsection (3), the chief inspector must give its holder a notice stating—
 - (a) that the chief inspector proposes to cancel the approval; and
 - (b) the reasons for the proposed cancellation; and
 - (c) that the holder may lodge, within a stated reasonable period, written submissions about the proposed cancellation at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief inspector.
- (5) The chief inspector must, before making a decision under subsection (3), consider any written submissions lodged by the holder within the stated period.
- (6) A decision to cancel under subsection (3) takes effect when the holder is given an information notice about the decision or, if the notice states a later day of effect, on that later day.

- (2) The fact that a person is supplying a consumer with fuel gas under subsection (1)(b) does not limit an inspector's power to give the person a dangerous situation direction that requires the gas to have the prescribed odour.
- (3) In this section—
- appropriately qualified person*** means a person who—
- (a) is independent of the person supplying the fuel gas; and
 - (b) the chief inspector considers—
 - (i) is appropriately qualified; and
 - (ii) has access to information to carry out the risk analysis.

Chapter 8 Petroleum and fuel gas measurement

Part 1 Introduction

Division 1 Application of chapter 8

629 Application of ch 8

This chapter applies for meters used to—

- (a) measure, at custody transfer points, petroleum or fuel gas for supply or transport by pipeline; or
- (b) work out the petroleum royalty; or
- (c) comply with section 801.

Notes—

- 1 Under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CU, parts 1 and 2 also apply for the measurement and recording of incidental coal seam gas mined in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease.

- 2 The *National Measurement Act 1960* (Cwlth) also imposes requirements that apply for measurements schemes under this chapter.

Division 2 Interpretation

631 What is a *meter*

- (1) A *meter* is a device used to work out, by direct measurement, the energy, mass or volume of petroleum or fuel gas transferred from one place to another.

- (2) A *meter* includes—

- (a) a measuring device and its ancillary equipment; and

Examples of a measuring device—

a positive displacement meter, turbine meter and orifice metering

Example of ancillary equipment—

a flow computer

- (b) a measurement method.

Examples of measurement methods—

1 calibrated weighbridge differences

2 tank dip readings

3 for disposal of incidental coal seam gas in ventilation air from an underground coal mine, estimation of flow rates and sampling of methane content measurements

- (3) A reference to a *meter* includes a part of the meter.

632 Who is the *controller* of a meter

- (1) The *controller*, of a meter, is the person who owns the meter.
- (2) However, if the owner has arranged with someone else for the other person to operate and maintain the meter for measurement purposes, the other person is the *controller* of the meter while the arrangement is in force.

633 What is the *measurement scheme* for a meter

The *measurement scheme*, for a meter, is the measurement scheme for the meter made under section 637, as revised from time to time under section 639.

634 *Measurement* includes estimation

A reference to the *measurement*, of petroleum or fuel gas, includes an estimation of the energy, mass or volume of the petroleum or fuel gas.

635 What is the *tolerance for error* for a meter

The *tolerance for error*, for a meter, is its tolerance for error in accuracy—

- (a) as prescribed under a regulation; or
- (b) if the tolerance is not prescribed under a regulation, as provided for under—
 - (i) the measurement scheme for the meter; or
 - (ii) an Australian standard or similar standard that the measurement scheme for the meter requires the meter to comply with.

Part 2 Measurement schemes**Division 1 Making and revision of measurement scheme****636 Obligations of controller of meter**

The controller of a meter must—

- (a) make a measurement scheme for the meter that complies with section 637; and

(b) implement and maintain the scheme.²³⁷

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

637 Content requirements for measurement schemes

- (1) A measurement scheme for a meter must—
 - (a) identify each meter, or meter family or type, to which the scheme applies; and
 - (b) if the scheme applies to a meter family or type—state approximately how many meters to which the scheme applies are in each family or type; and
 - (c) state an Australian standard or other standard acceptable to the chief executive to which each meter to which the scheme applies must comply; and
 - (d) if the standard does not provide for, or a regulation does not prescribe, when any of the meters must be replaced or tested—state a proposed time or interval for replacement or testing; and
 - (e) if the standard does not state, or a regulation does not prescribe, a tolerance for error for any of the meters—state what is the tolerance for error for the meters or meters of their family or type; and
 - (f) provide for regular reviews of the scheme; and
 - (g) state key performance indicators to be used to monitor compliance with the scheme and this chapter; and
 - (h) include any competency requirement made under section 638; and
 - (i) comply with any relevant requirements under the *National Measurement Act 1960* (Cwlth); and
 - (j) state the means of compliance with other relevant matters prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (k) state other matters prescribed under a regulation.

237 See also section 801 (Petroleum producer's measurement obligations).

- (2) The scheme must also address the following to the extent they are appropriate for the meters to which the scheme applies—
- (a) installation and commissioning of meters;
 - (b) meter testing methods and frequency;
 - (c) maintenance processes;
 - (d) correction factor calculation;
 - (e) calibration and traceability of meter test equipment;
 - (f) meter security, including, for example, protection from damage during transport, installation and use and preventing unauthorised alteration of meter readings;
 - (g) processes for estimated meter readings, reasons for estimations and procedures for reconciling actual and estimated readings;
 - (h) procedures on meter failure, incorrect operation or meter bypass;
 - (i) levels of competency for persons employed or engaged to carry out measurement activities under the scheme or other activities relating to the meters;

Examples of other activities—

removing and replacing the meters

- (j) training programs to maintain the skill levels of persons mentioned in paragraph (i);
- (k) records to be kept, including, for example, records of anomalies, complaints and action taken to rectify or account for them, and the minimum period they will be kept.

- (3) In this section—

meter family means a group of meters if—

- (a) all the meters have been made to the same specifications by the same manufacturer; and
- (b) there are no significant differences in components or materials between meters.

638 Power to fix competency required under measurement scheme

- (1) This section applies if the chief executive believes an activity under a measurement scheme for a meter should be performed only by a person with a particular competency.
- (2) The chief executive may, by notice to the controller of the relevant meter, require the task be performed only by a person with the competency.
- (3) On the giving of the notice, the controller must ensure—
 - (a) the task is performed only by a person with the competency; and
 - (b) the scheme is amended to incorporate the requirement.

639 When measurement scheme must be revised

- (1) The controller of a meter must appropriately revise the measurement scheme for the meter in any of the following circumstances—
 - (a) the controller has installed, or proposes to install, a meter to which the scheme does not apply or that does not comply with the scheme;
 - (b) the making or amendment of an Australian standard or other standard that makes it appropriate to revise the scheme;
 - (c) the happening of an event relevant to the meter of which the controller is aware, or ought reasonably to have been aware;

Examples of an event—

- a development in technical knowledge or hazard assessment
- (d) proposed modifications to the meter or activities under the scheme that make it appropriate to revise the scheme;
- (e) it is proposed to change competencies required for persons carrying out activities under the scheme;
- (f) the controller becomes aware of a significant anomaly in the scheme;

- (g) there is a likelihood of inaccurate measurements under the scheme.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) In this section—

revise means amend or remake.

Division 2 Compliance with measurement scheme

640 Meter installation or use must comply with scheme

A person must not install or use a meter unless—

- (a) a measurement scheme that applies to the meter has been made; and
- (b) the scheme complies with section 637; and
- (c) the installation or use complies with the scheme.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.²³⁸

641 Measurement must comply with scheme

A person must not measure petroleum or fuel gas through a meter unless—

- (a) the measurement is done in a way that complies with the measurement scheme that applies to the meter; and
- (b) the scheme complies with section 637.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

642 Controller responsible for compliance with measurement scheme

- (1) The controller of a meter must ensure everyone carrying out activities to which the measurement scheme for the meter applies complies with the scheme.

238 See also section 658 (Authorisation required to install or use pre-payment meters).

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) Evidence that another person has been convicted of an offence against section 640 or 641 is evidence that the controller committed the offence of failing to ensure the other person complies with the scheme.

Division 3 Regulatory provisions

643 Chief executive's powers if no measurement scheme

- (1) If the chief executive is satisfied no measurement scheme applies to a meter, the chief executive may, by notice to the controller of the meter prohibit, or impose conditions on, its use or operation.
- (2) The notice must include, or be accompanied by, an information notice about the decision to make the prohibition or impose the conditions.
- (3) The controller must comply with the notice.

Maximum penalty for subsection (3)—500 penalty units.

644 Notice by chief executive of unsatisfactory measurement scheme

- (1) This section applies if the chief executive reasonably believes a measurement scheme for a meter does not comply with section 637 or must be revised under section 639.
- (2) The chief executive must give the controller notice—
 - (a) stating the belief, and the reasons for it; and
 - (b) requiring the controller within a stated reasonable period to—
 - (i) amend the scheme so that it complies with section 637, or, if appropriate, revise the scheme under section 639, and lodge a notice that the scheme has been so amended or revised; or
 - (ii) lodge at the following office submissions as to why the scheme complies with the section 637, or that a revision is not required under section 639—

- (A) the office of the department for lodging the referral, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (B) if no office is gazetted under subsubparagraph (A)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) The notice may state how the chief executive considers the scheme should be amended.

645 Considering submissions

- (1) This section applies if, within the period stated in a notice given under section 644(2) to a controller, the controller lodges a submission under that section.
- (2) The chief executive must consider the submission.
- (3) If the chief executive decides the scheme does comply or does not need to be revised, the chief executive must give the controller notice of the decision.

646 Revision notice

- (1) This section applies if, after complying with section 645, the chief executive still believes the relevant measurement scheme does not comply with section 637 or must be revised under section 639.
- (2) The chief executive may give the controller notice (the *revision notice*) requiring the controller to amend or remake the measurement scheme so that—
 - (a) it complies with section 637; and
 - (b) if the chief executive believes it must be revised under section 639—the revision is made.
- (3) The revision notice must—
 - (a) state how the chief executive believes the measurement scheme does not comply with section 637 or must be revised under section 639; and
 - (b) state a period within which the controller must comply with the revision notice; and

- (c) be accompanied by, or include, an information notice about the decisions to give the revision notice and to fix the stated period.
- (4) The controller must comply with the revision notice.
Maximum penalty for subsection (4)—500 penalty units.

Division 4 Significant meter anomalies

647 Application of div 4

This division applies if the controller of a meter becomes aware of an anomaly relating to the meter that causes, or may cause, the meter to be less accurate than its tolerance for error.

648 Restrictions on use of meter

- (1) The controller must, as soon as practicable, stop any use of the meter.
Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.
- (2) The controller must not use the meter or resume the use of the meter until the anomaly has been corrected.
Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

649 Obligation to report if required

- (1) If the chief executive has required the controller to lodge a notice of the anomaly, or that type of anomaly, the controller must give the notice as soon as practicable.
Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.
- (2) The notice must be lodged at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

Division 5 Other reporting requirements

650 Annual measurement report

- (1) The controller of a meter must, on or before 1 September each year, lodge a measurement report about its measurement scheme for the preceding financial year that complies with section 651.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

- (2) The measurement report must be lodged at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging measurement reports, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) It is not a defence to a proceeding for an offence against subsection (1) that the lodging of the report or information it contains might tend to incriminate the controller.
- (4) However, evidence of, or evidence directly or indirectly derived from, the report or information it contains that might tend to incriminate the controller is not admissible in evidence against the controller in a civil or criminal proceeding, other than a proceeding for an offence for which the falsity or misleading nature of the answer is relevant.

651 Content requirements for annual measurement reports

A measurement report under section 650 must state all of the following information for the measurement scheme the subject of the report for the financial year to which the report relates—

- (a) the controller's name and contact details;
- (b) the nature and extent of the metering operations;
- (c) whether or not the operations complied with the scheme and this Act;
- (d) an assessment against the key performance indicators for the scheme, as required under section 637(1)(g);

- (e) if the operations have not complied with the scheme or this Act—
 - (i) details of each noncompliance; and
 - (ii) details of any remediation of the noncompliance; and
 - (iii) if the noncompliance has not been remedied in whole or part—how it is proposed to remedy the noncompliance.

652 Power to require information about persons acting under measurement scheme

- (1) The chief executive may, by a notice given to a controller of a meter, require the controller to lodge, within a stated period, notice of—
 - (a) the names of, and the competencies held by—
 - (i) each person who carries out activities for which competencies are required under the measurement scheme for the meter; or
 - (ii) a stated type of persons who carry out the activities; or
 - (b) the competencies held by a stated person who carries out the activities.
- (2) The stated period must not end before 10 business days after the notice is given.
- (3) The notice must be lodged at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (4) The controller must comply with the requirement.

Maximum penalty for subsection (4)—100 penalty units.

Part 3 Competency assessments

653 Chief executive's power to require competency assessment

- (1) The chief executive may, by notice, (a *competency assessment notice*) require the controller of a meter to—
 - (a) assess the competency (a *competency assessment*) of a person who carries out—
 - (i) measurement activities under the measurement scheme for the meter; or
 - (ii) other activities relating to the meter; and

Examples of other activities—

removing and replacing meters
 - (b) give the person a report about the outcome of the assessment within a stated reasonable period after the assessment takes place; and
 - (c) lodge a copy of the report at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the report, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (2) The competency assessment notice must state—
 - (a) a period (the *assessment period*) during which the assessment must take place; and
 - (b) reasons for the decision to carry out the assessment.
- (3) The assessment period must be at least 20 business days after the competency assessment notice is given.
- (4) The competency assessment notice may also require the assessment to be carried out for the controller by a stated person.
- (5) The controller must comply with the competency assessment notice.

Maximum penalty for subsection (5)—300 penalty units.

654 Costs of competency assessment

A controller to whom a competency assessment notice has been given must bear the costs of the assessment.

655 Requirements following competency assessment

- (1) This section applies if the chief executive considers a report lodged under section 653 about a competency assessment shows that the person assessed is not competent to carry out an activity relating to the relevant meter.
- (2) The chief executive may give the person assessed and the relevant controller notice—
 - (a) requiring them to—
 - (i) take stated remedial action to ensure the person assessed becomes competent to carry out the activity; and
 - (ii) give the chief executive notice within a stated reasonable period as to whether or not the action has been taken; or
 - (b) requiring the person assessed not to carry out stated activities for a stated period or until the happening of a stated event; or

Example of a stated event—

if the notice requires the taking of remedial action, the chief executive's receipt of a notice under paragraph (a)(ii) stating that the action has been taken

- (c) requiring that the person assessed may carry out stated activities only on stated conditions.
- (3) The person assessed and the relevant controller must comply with the notice.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

- (4) The giving of a notice under this section does not prevent a further competency assessment notice being given for the person assessed.

Part 4 **General provisions about meters**

656 Controller's obligation to test if inaccuracy suspected

If a controller of a meter suspects it may be registering inaccurately, the controller must have it tested as soon as practicable.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

657 Unlawfully interfering with meters or devices prohibited

A person must not unlawfully interfere with—

- (a) a meter; or
- (b) the operation of a meter; or
- (c) a security device, seal or stamp attached to a meter.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

658 Authorisation required to install or use pre-payment meters

(1) A person must not install or use a pre-payment meter unless—

- (a) the chief executive has approved the installation or use; and
- (b) any conditions of the approval have been complied with.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

(2) The approval may be given for the installation and use of a stated type of meter at a stated place or stated activity.

Part 5 Meter accuracy disputes

Division 1 Preliminary

659 Application of pt 5

- (1) This part applies to disputes between an affected party for a meter and a service provider for the party about whether the meter is accurate, within its tolerance for error.
- (2) However, this part does not apply to a dispute if a contract that binds the affected party and the service provider provides for resolution of the dispute.

660 Who is an *affected party* for a meter

- (1) A person is an *affected party* for a meter if the person is, or may be, affected by—
 - (a) the meter possibly registering outside its tolerance for error; or
 - (b) inaccurate data obtained from the meter.
- (2) Also, the chief executive is an *affected party* for a meter used to work out the petroleum royalty, including, for example, a meter mentioned in section 629(b).

661 Who is the *service provider* for an affected party

The *service provider*, for an affected party, is—

- (a) a person who provides a service relating to the relevant meter; or
- (b) the petroleum tenure holder who must pay petroleum royalty for petroleum measured by the relevant meter.

Division 2 Test by service provider

662 Service provider test

- (1) An affected party for a meter may give the party's service provider notice requiring a test to work out whether the meter is registering within its tolerance for error (a *service provider test*).
- (2) The notice must be accompanied by any reasonable fee required by the service provider.
- (3) The service provider must, as soon as practicable—
 - (a) cause an appropriately qualified person to carry out the test; and
 - (b) obtain a meter test certificate for the test; and
 - (c) give a copy of the certificate to—
 - (i) the affected party; and
 - (ii) if the service provider is not the controller of the meter—the controller.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

- (4) If the service provider reasonably considers the meter can not conveniently or safely be tested on its site, the provider must immediately advise the affected party.
- (5) The advice must include how long the meter will be away from the site and any additional charges likely to be incurred.
- (6) The affected party may, at any time, withdraw the notice.
- (7) If the withdrawal is made before the test is completed, the service provider must refund the fee for the test, less any cost already incurred in carrying out the test.

663 Content requirements for meter test certificate

A meter test certificate under this part must be a certificate by the person who carried out the test stating each of the following—

- (a) full details of the test;

- (b) the tolerance for error for the relevant meter;
- (c) whether the meter was found to be registering within or outside its tolerance for error;
- (d) if the meter was found to be registering outside its tolerance for error—
 - (i) the percentage of error found; and
 - (ii) whether the error was in favour of the affected party or the service provider; and
 - (iii) any known cause of the error.

664 Refund if test shows inaccuracy in service provider's favour

If a service provider test shows the meter tested is registering outside its tolerance for error and in the provider's favour, the provider must—

- (a) pay for the cost of the test; and
- (b) refund the affected party any amount the party paid the provider for the test.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

665 Restriction on tester adjusting meter

If a person who carries out a service provider test of a meter finds it is not registering or registering outside its tolerance for error, the person must not adjust the meter unless—

- (a) the person has told the affected party that—
 - (i) the meter is not registering or is registering outside its tolerance for error, and, if it is registering outside its tolerance for error, the percentage of error found; and
 - (ii) the person wishes to make the adjustment; and
 - (iii) if the adjustment is made, a validation test of the meter will not be able to be carried out; and

- (b) the affected party has given the person written consent to make the adjustment.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

Division 3 Validation of service provider test

666 Validation test

- (1) This section applies if a service provider test has been carried out for an affected party.
- (2) The party may, by notice to the service provider, require the provider to arrange for a test by any of the following to work out whether the relevant meter is registering within its tolerance for error (a *validation test*)—
 - (a) an appropriately qualified person appointed by the chief executive;
 - (b) an accredited National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) testing facility or an equivalent international facility;
 - (c) an international testing facility approved by the chief executive.
- (3) The notice must be accompanied by any reasonable fee required by the appointed person or testing facility for the test.
- (4) As soon as practicable after receiving the notice, the service provider must—
 - (a) lodge a copy at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (b) if the service provider is not the controller of the meter—give the controller a copy; and
 - (c) arrange for the appointed person or testing facility to carry out the test.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

- (5) The appointed person or testing facility must, as soon as is reasonably practicable—
 - (a) carry out the test; and
 - (b) issue a meter test certificate for the test that complies with section 663; and
 - (c) give the service provider the certificate.
- (6) The service provider must, as soon as practicable after receiving the certificate—
 - (a) give a copy of it to the affected party and, if the service provider is not the controller of the meter, the controller; and
 - (b) lodge a copy of it at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the copy, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.

Maximum penalty for subsection (6)—50 penalty units.

667 Refund if test shows inaccuracy in service provider's favour

If a validation test of a meter shows it is registering outside its tolerance for error in the service provider's favour, the provider must—

- (a) pay for the costs of the service provider and validation tests; and
- (b) refund the affected party any amount the party paid for the relevant service provider test and the validation test.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

668 Service provider's obligations if test shows inaccuracy

- (1) This section applies if—

- (a) a validation test of a meter shows it is not registering or is registering outside its tolerance for error; and
 - (b) the relevant service provider has, under section 666(5)(c), been given a meter test certificate for the test.
- (2) The service provider must, unless it is uneconomic or impractical to do so, adjust the meter so it registers within its tolerance for error.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (3) If it is uneconomic or impractical to make the adjustment, the service provider must—
- (a) ensure the meter is properly disconnected; and
 - (b) attach firmly to the meter a label clearly bearing the words—‘Inaccurate: not to be used’.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

Chapter 9 Safety

Part 1 Safety requirements and labelling

669 Making safety requirement

A regulation may make requirements (*safety requirements*)—

- (a) for petroleum or fuel gas safety, including, for example, how to achieve an acceptable level of risk under section 700; or
- (b) about the carrying out of petroleum exploration or production to ensure it does not adversely affect the safety of current or future coal mining under the Mineral Resources Act; or
- (c) about GHG storage activities.

669A Labelling

- (1) Without limiting sections 669 and 859, a regulation may provide for the certification or labelling of gas devices or gas fittings.
- (2) A regulation under subsection (1), may also provide for all or any of the following for gas devices or gas fittings—
 - (a) labelling for certification;
 - (b) labelling for minimum energy performance standards;
 - (c) efficiency labelling;
 - (d) approval or registration of labels;
 - (e) selling or hiring;
 - (f) offering, exposing or advertising for sale or hire.

Part 2 Safety management plans**Division 1 Preliminary****670 What is an *operating plant***

- (1) This section applies subject to section 671.
- (2) An *operating plant* is any of the following—
 - (a) a facility used to explore for, produce or process petroleum, including machinery used for maintaining or repairing a petroleum well;
Example of machinery used for maintaining or repairing a petroleum well—
machinery known in the petroleum and gas industry as a work over rig
 - (b) a petroleum facility;
 - (c) a pipeline authorised under a petroleum authority;
 - (d) a distribution pipeline;

- (e) a distribution system;
 - (f) a bulk fuel gas storage facility;
 - (g) a facility that is used to carry out a GHG storage activity;
 - (h) a GHG stream pipeline under the GHG storage Act.
- (3) However, if a facility has, under the *Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001*, been classified as a major hazard facility, it is an operating plant only to the extent to which that Act does not apply to the facility.
- (4) Subsection (2) applies for a facility or pipeline even if it is—
- (a) an on-site activity as defined under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act; or
 - (b) an operation as defined under the *Mining and Quarrying Safety and Health Act 1999*.
- (5) An ***operating plant*** is also a place, or a part of a place, at which a following activity is carried out, but only to the extent of the carrying out of the activity—
- (a) an LPG delivery network prescribed under a regulation;
 - (b) tanker delivery of bulk fuel gas;
 - (c) cylinder storage at premises prescribed under a regulation;
 - (d) an authorised activity under a petroleum authority or a GHG authority if the activity is a seismic survey for data acquisition;
 - (da) an underground gasification activity;
 - (e) another activity prescribed under a regulation and associated with the delivery, storage, transport, treatment or use of petroleum or fuel gas.
- (6) Also, an ***operating plant*** includes—
- (a) any part of the area of a petroleum tenure or 1923 Act petroleum tenure on which an operating plant under subsections (2) to (5) happens or is located as an authorised activity for the tenure; and

- (b) any part of the area of a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease—
 - (i) on which an operating plant under subsections (2) to (5) happens or is located as an entitlement for the lease; and
 - (ii) to which section 671 does not apply; and
 - (c) any part of the area of GHG authority on which an operating plant under subsections (2) to (5) happens or is located as a GHG storage activity for the authority.
- (7) A reference to an operating plant includes a reference to each stage of the plant that has commenced.

671 Limitation for facility or pipeline included in coal mining operation

- (1) This section applies for a facility or pipeline that is, or is part of, a coal mining operation or an on-site activity under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act.
- (2) The facility or pipeline is an operating plant only if—
 - (a) it is used to explore for, extract, produce, process, release or transport coal seam gas (the *activity*); and
 - (b) either—
 - (i) the activity is carried out under a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease; or
 - (ii) the person who holds the mining lease, the area of which includes the area on which the activity is carried out, also holds a petroleum lease the area of which includes the area.
- (3) An operating plant mentioned in subsection (2) is a *coal mining-CSG operating plant*.

672 What is a *stage* of an operating plant

A *stage*, of an operating plant, means any of the following for the plant—

- (a) commissioning;

- (b) operation;
- (c) maintenance or modification;
- (d) decommissioning.

673 Who is the *operator* of an operating plant

- (1) This section provides for who is the *operator* of an operating plant.
- (2) For a coal mining-CSG operating plant, the operator is the relevant site senior executive under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act.
- (3) Otherwise, the operator is the person who has the role of being responsible for the management and safe operation of the plant.
- (4) For subsection (3), the operator does not include a person who in relation to the plant is subject to the control of another person who has the role of being responsible for the management and safe operation of the plant.

Examples for subsections (3) and (4)—

- 1 The operator of a drilling rig is the operations manager or another senior officer of the drilling company that is operating the drilling rig and not the person employed as the driller or rig manager.
- 2 The operator of a tanker delivery bulk LPG business is the manager of the delivery operation and not the person employed as the tanker driver.

Division 2 Operator's obligations²³⁹

673A Operator must ensure chief inspector is given notice before a plant is commissioned or operated

- (1) This section applies to a plant that is to be commissioned or operated for the first time in Queensland.
- (2) The operator of the plant must ensure the chief inspector is given written notice of the commissioning or operation of the

²³⁹ See also section 694 (Operator is default site safety manager).

plant within 20 business days before the commissioning or operation.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

674 Requirement to have safety management plan

- (1) The operator of an operating plant must—
 - (a) for each stage of the plant, make a safety management plan that complies with—
 - (i) section 675; and
 - (ii) if the plant is used to explore for, extract, produce or release petroleum within coal seams—section 388, subject to any exemption given under section 389; and
 - (b) implement and maintain the plan.

Maximum penalty—1500 penalty units.

- (2) The operator of an operating plant must not begin a stage of the plant unless—
 - (a) the operator has made a safety management plan that applies to the stage; and
 - (b) the plan complies with section 675; and
 - (c) if the plant is used to explore for, extract, produce or release petroleum within coal seams—the plan complies with section 388, subject to any exemption given under section 389.

Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.

- (3) A safety management plan may apply to more than 1 operating plant.
- (4) However, the plan must still comply with section 675 in relation to each operating plant to which the plan applies.²⁴⁰

²⁴⁰ For coal mining-CSG operating plant, see division 4 (Special provisions for safety management plans for coal mining-CSG operating plant).

- (5) Also, if section 705 applies for an operating plant, the safety management plan must include a principal hazard management plan.

675 Content requirements for safety management plans

- (1) A safety management plan for an operating plant must include details of each of the following to the extent they are appropriate for the plant—
- (a) a description of the plant, its location and operations;
 - (b) organisational safety policies;
 - (c) organisational structure and safety responsibilities;
 - (ca) for an operating plant, other than a coal mining–CSG operating plant—the operator of the plant;
 - (d) each site at the plant for which a site safety manager is required;
 - (e) a formal safety assessment consisting of the systematic assessment of risk and a description of the technical and other measures undertaken, or to be undertaken, to control the identified risk;
 - (f) if there is proposed, or there is likely to be, interaction with other operating plant or contractors in the same vicinity, or if there are multiple operating plant with different operators on the same petroleum tenure or GHG authority—
 - (i) a description of the proposed or likely interactions, and how they will be managed; and
 - (ii) an identification of the specific risks that may arise as a result of the proposed or likely interactions, and how the risks will be controlled; and
 - (iii) an identification of the safety responsibilities of each operator;
 - (g) a skills assessment identifying the minimum skills, knowledge, competencies and experience requirements for each person to carry out specific work;

- (h) a training and supervision program containing the mechanism for imparting the skills, knowledge, competencies and experience identified in paragraph (g) and assessing new skills, monitoring performance and ensuring ongoing retention of skill levels;
- (i) safety standards and standard operating and maintenance procedures applied, or to be applied, in each stage of the plant;
- (j) control systems including, for example, alarm systems, temperature and pressure control systems, and emergency shutdown systems;
- (k) machinery and equipment relating to, or that may affect, the safety of the plant;
- (l) emergency equipment, preparedness and procedures;
- (m) communication systems including, for example, emergency communication systems;
- (ma) a process for managing change including a process for managing any changes to plant, operating procedures, organisational structure, personnel and the safety management plan;
- (n) the mechanisms for implementing, monitoring and reviewing and auditing safety policies and safety management plans;
- (p) key performance indicators to be used to monitor compliance with the plan and this Act;
- (q) mechanisms for—
 - (i) recording, investigating and reviewing incidents at the plant; and
 - (ii) implementing recommendations from an investigation or review of an incident at the plant;
- (r) record management including, for example, all relevant approvals, certificates of compliance and other documents required under this Act;
- (s) to the extent that, because of the *Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995*, section 3(1), that Act does not apply to a place or installation at the plant, details, including

codes and standards adopted, addressing all relevant requirements under that Act that would, other than for that section, apply;

- (t) if the operating plant is, under the NOHSC standard, a major hazard facility²⁴¹—each matter not mentioned in paragraphs (b) to (r) that is provided for under chapters 6 to 10 of that standard;
 - (u) another matter prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) However, details, or full details, of a matter mentioned in subsection (1) need not be included in the plan if—
- (a) because of the nature, size or type of the operating plant, it is inappropriate to include the details; and
 - (b) the plan—
 - (i) complies with each relevant safety requirement or, if there is no relevant safety requirement for the matter, other accepted industry practices for the matter; and
 - (ii) states why it is inappropriate to include the details.
- (3) A formal safety assessment under subsection (1)(e), must, as far as practicable, state ways to control risks associated with the operating plant to an acceptable level by—
- (a) eliminating or minimising hazards at the plant; and
 - (b) implementing measures to minimise the likelihood, and limit the consequences, of significant incidents at the plant.
- (4) In this section—

NOHSC standard means the ‘National Standard for the Control of Major Hazard Facilities [NOHSC:1014 (2002)]’ continued in effect under the *National Occupation Health and*

²⁴¹ For what is a major hazard facility under the NOHSC standard, see chapter 4, definition *major hazard facility* and chapter 5 (Identification and classification of a major hazard facility), section 5.6.

*Safety Commission (Repeal, Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2005 (Cwlth), section 7(2).*²⁴²

675A Generic safety management plans

- (1) For each stage of an operating plant, the operator of the plant is taken to have made a safety management plan that complies with section 675 if the operator adopts a generic SMP for that stage.
- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply for a stage of a plant if—
 - (a) the chief inspector considers that, because of the complexity of the plant or the particular risks associated with the plant, the generic SMP does not sufficiently manage the level of risk at the plant for the stage; and
 - (b) the chief inspector gives the operator a written notice stating that the safety management plan for the plant must comply with section 675 for the stage.
- (3) In this section—

generic SMP, for a stage of an operating plant (the *relevant plant*), means a plan in the form of a safety management plan that is prescribed under a regulation for the stage of an operating plant of the same type as the relevant plant.

676 Publication of and access to safety management plan

- (1) The operator of an operating plant must—
 - (a) whenever the plant is operating, keep a copy of the safety management plan for the plant or the part of the plan relevant to the plant, open for inspection—
 - (i) at the plant; or
 - (ii) if because of the nature, size or type of the plant it is impracticable to keep it at the plant—at another place where it is reasonable to have it open for inspection; and

²⁴² A copy of the standard may be inspected, free of charge, during office hours on business days at the department's office at 41 George Street, Brisbane.

- (b) display, and keep displayed, in a conspicuous place at the plant where it can be easily read by anyone to whom the plan, or part of the plan, may apply, a notice stating where the copy of the plan is open for inspection; and
- (c) ensure each person who has an obligation under the plan is told they have an obligation under the plan within a reasonable period before the plan requires them to comply with the obligation.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

- (2) In this section—

open for inspection means open for inspection by anyone to whom the plan, or part of the plan, may apply.²⁴³

677 Operator responsible for compliance with safety management plan

- (1) The operator of an operating plant must ensure everyone who has an obligation under the safety management plan for the plant complies with their obligations under the plan.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) Evidence that another person has been convicted of an offence against section 702 is evidence that the operator committed the offence of failing to ensure the other person complies with their obligations under the plan.

678 When safety management plan must be revised

- (1) The operator of an operating plant must revise the safety management plan for the plant if any of the following make the revision appropriate—
 - (a) the making or amendment of a safety code, safety requirement or a standard;

²⁴³ See also section 836 (Safety management plans).

For coal mining-CSG operating plant see division 4 (Special provisions for safety management plans for coal mining-CSG operating plant).

- (b) the happening of an event relevant to the plant of which the operator is aware, or ought reasonably to have been aware;

Examples of an event—

a development in technical knowledge or hazard assessment

- (c) changes or proposed changes to the plant that could result in an increase in the overall risk levels, or a specific risk level, for the plant.

Maximum penalty—1500 penalty units.

- (2) In this section—

revise means amend or remake.²⁴⁴

Division 3 Validation of safety management plans

679 Notice by chief inspector

- (1) This section applies if the chief inspector reasonably believes a safety management plan for an operating plant, or an aspect of the plan—
- (a) does not comply with section 675; or
 - (b) is insufficient to ensure an acceptable level of risk at the plant; or
 - (c) must be revised under section 678.
- (2) The chief inspector must give the operator of the plant notice (a *validation notice*)—
- (a) stating the belief, and the reasons for it; and
 - (b) requiring the operator within a stated reasonable period to—
 - (i) amend the plan so that it complies with section 675, or, if appropriate, revise the plan under

²⁴⁴ For coal mining-CSG operating plant see division 4 (Special provisions for safety management plans for coal mining-CSG operating plant).

- section 678, and give the chief inspector notice that the plan has been so amended or revised; or
- (ii) lodge submissions as to why the plan complies with the section at—
- (A) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector; or
- (B) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (A)—the office of the chief inspector.
- (3) The validation notice may state how the chief inspector considers the plan should be amended.
- (4) The operator must comply with the validation notice.
- Maximum penalty for subsection (4)—1500 penalty units.

680 Considering submissions

- (1) This section applies if, within the period stated in a notice given, under section 679(2), to an operator, the operator lodges a submission under that section.
- (2) The chief inspector must consider the submission.
- (3) If the chief inspector decides the plan does comply or does not need to be revised, the chief inspector must give the operator notice of the decision.

681 Revision notice

- (1) This section applies if, after complying with section 680, the chief inspector still believes the relevant safety management plan does not comply with section 675 or must be revised under section 678.
- (2) The chief inspector may give the operator notice (the *revision notice*) requiring the operator to amend or remake the safety management plan so that—
- (a) it complies with section 675; and
- (b) if the chief inspector believes it must be revised under section 678—the revision is made.

- (3) The revision notice must—
- (a) state how the chief inspector believes the safety management plan does not comply with section 675 or must be revised under section 678; and
 - (b) state a period within which the operator must comply with the revision notice; and
 - (c) be accompanied by, or include, an information notice about the decisions to give the revision notice and to fix the stated period.
- (4) The operator must comply with the revision notice.
- Maximum penalty for subsection (4)—1500 penalty units.

682 Other inspector's powers not affected

The giving of a notice under this division does not limit or otherwise affect an inspector's powers under this Act.

Division 4 Special provisions for safety management plans for coal mining-CSG operating plant

683 Application of div 4

This division applies for a coal mining-CSG operating plant if—

- (a) the operator of the operating plant has a safety and health management system for, or that includes, the operating plant; and
- (b) the system complies with—
 - (i) the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act, section 62; and
 - (ii) the content requirements under section 675 for a safety management plan.

684 Integration with safety and health management system

- (1) The operator of the operating plant is taken to have complied with sections 674 and 678.
- (2) The safety and health management system is taken to be, or include, the safety management plan for the plant.

685 Alternative compliance with s 676

The operator of coal mining-CSG operating plant is taken to have complied with section 676 if the operator complies with the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act, section 62(4) and (5).

686 Restriction on application of div 3

The chief inspector can only give a notice under division 3 for the parts of the safety and health management system directly affecting the operation of the operating plant.

Part 3 Safety positions and report

Division 1 Executive safety manager and safety report

687 Who is the *executive safety manager* of an operating plant

- (1) This section provides for who is the *executive safety manager* for an operating plant.
- (2) For a coal mining-CSG operating plant, the executive safety manager is the site senior executive appointed under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act.
- (3) Otherwise, the executive safety manager is—
 - (a) if the operator is an individual—the operator; or

- (b) the senior managing officer of the corporation or organisation responsible for the management and safe operation of the operating plant.

- (4) In this section—

senior managing officer, of a corporation, means the person in Australia who is the most senior officer (however called) of the corporation in Australia responsible for managing the corporation.

688 Executive safety manager's general obligations

The executive safety manager of an operating plant must—

- (a) appoint an appropriately qualified person as the operator of the plant; and
- (b) ensure the operator of the plant has, for each stage of the plant, a plan that is—
 - (i) a safety management plan for the plant made under section 674(1)(a) after consultation with the employees at the plant; or
 - (ii) a generic SMP adopted for the plant; and
- (c) approve the plan before it is put into effect; and
- (d) ensure the plan is implemented in a way that effectively manages the risks associated with the plant.

Maximum penalty—2000 penalty units.

689 Executive safety manager must give annual safety report

- (1) The executive safety manager for an operating plant must, on or before 1 September each year, lodge a safety report for the plant in relation to the preceding financial year that complies with section 690.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) The safety report must be lodged at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging safety reports, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector; or

- (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief inspector.
- (3) It is not a defence to a proceeding for an offence against subsection (1) that the lodging of the report or information it contains might tend to incriminate the executive safety manager.
- (4) However, evidence of, or evidence directly or indirectly derived from, the report or information it contains that might tend to incriminate the executive safety manager is not admissible in evidence against anyone, other than in a proceeding for an offence for which the falsity or misleading nature of the answer is relevant.

690 Content requirements for safety reports

- (1) A safety report under section 689 must state all of the following information for the operating plant the subject of the report for the financial year to which the report relates—
 - (a) a description of the plant, its location and operations;
 - (b) the names and contact details of each of the following for the plant—
 - (i) its operator;
 - (ii) its executive safety manager;
 - (iii) any site safety manager;
 - (iv) any other person who is competent to discuss the information about the plant in the report;
 - (c) the nature and extent of the activities carried out at the plant;
 - (d) significant safety risks at the plant;
 - (e) whether or not the activities and the plant complied with the safety management plan for the plant and the Act;
 - (f) if the activities or the plant have not complied with the plan or the Act—
 - (i) details of each noncompliance; and

- (ii) details of any remediation of the noncompliance; and
 - (iii) if the noncompliance has not been remedied in whole or part—how it is proposed to remedy the noncompliance;
 - (g) if the operations of the operating plant during all or part of the year may have affected the future safe and efficient mining of coal—
 - (i) the nature of any hazard, or potential hazard, to the future safe and efficient mining of coal or oil shale in the area; and
 - (ii) the way in which the hazard or potential hazard was created; and
 - (iii) the location, stated in the way prescribed under a regulation, of the hazard or potential hazard; and
 - (iv) measures taken to prevent or reduce the hazards or potential hazards or to mitigate their effects;
 - (h) if the operations of the operating plant during all or part of the year may have affected the future safe and efficient carrying out of GHG storage activities—
 - (i) the nature of any hazard or potential hazard to the future safe and efficient carrying out of the GHG storage activities; and
 - (ii) the way in which the hazard or potential hazard was created; and
 - (iii) the location stated in the way prescribed under a regulation of the hazard or potential hazard; and
 - (iv) measures taken to prevent or reduce the hazards or potential hazards or to mitigate their effects;
 - (i) the mechanism for implementing, monitoring and reviewing and auditing safety policies and safety management plans.
- (2) A safety report may relate to—
- (a) 1 or more of the stages for the plant; and

- (b) more than 1 operating plant owned or operated by the same person.

691 Obligation to give information to particular authority holders

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an executive safety manager for an operating plant gives a safety report that contains information mentioned in section 690(1)(g) or (h); and
 - (b) either—
 - (i) there is a holder of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement under which the safe and efficient mining of coal or oil shale may have been affected by the operation of the operating plant; or
 - (ii) there is a holder of a GHG tenure under which the carrying out of GHG storage activities may have been affected by the operation of the operating plant.
- (2) The executive safety manager must, as soon as practicable, give the holder the following information in the report—
 - (a) if the holder is a coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder—the information mentioned in section 690(1)(g);
 - (b) if the holder is a GHG tenure holder—the information mentioned in section 690(1)(h).

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.
- (3) Chapter 3, part 8 applies to any information given under this section—
 - (a) as if the information were given for the purposes of chapter 3; and
 - (b) if the information is given to a holder of a GHG tenure, as if a reference in that part to a coal or oil shale exploration tenement included a reference to a GHG tenure.

Division 2 Site safety manager

692 Site safety manager

- (1) If the safety management plan for an operating plant requires a site safety manager for a site at the plant, the operator of the plant must appoint an appropriately qualified person as the site safety manager for the site.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) The chief inspector may give the operator of an operating plant a notice directing the operator to, within a stated reasonable period, appoint 1 or more appropriately qualified persons as a site safety manager for—

- (a) a stated site at the plant; or
- (b) a stated activity at a stated site at the plant.

- (3) The operator must comply with the notice.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (4) More than 1 person may be appointed as a site safety manager for a site at an operating plant.

693 Site safety manager's obligations

The site safety manager for a site at an operating plant must ensure—

- (a) each person who enters the site is given an appropriate induction that enables the person to comply with section 702;²⁴⁵ and
- (b) each person at the site complies with standard operating procedures, emergency response procedures and other measures necessary for the safety of the site and the person; and

245 Section 702 (Requirement to comply with safety management plan)

See also section 699 (General obligation to keep risk to acceptable level).

- (c) each person working at the site performs their functions safely and follows standard operating procedures for the plant; and
- (d) necessary first aid, safety and other like equipment that is appropriate for the likely hazards of the site is—
 - (i) available for use; and
 - (ii) adequately maintained; and
 - (iii) reasonably available to anyone authorised to be on the site; and
- (e) relevant staff are trained in first aid, emergency and other general safety procedures.

Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.

694 Operator is default site safety manager

If no-one has been appointed as the site safety manager for a site at an operating plant, the operator of the plant is the site safety manager for the site.

Part 4 Other safety obligations

Division 1 Obligations relating to plant or equipment for use in operating plant

695 Exclusion of application of division for coal mining-CSG operating plant

This division does not apply for a coal mining-CSG operating plant.²⁴⁶

²⁴⁶ For coal mining-CSG operating plant, see the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act, sections 43 to 47.

696 Designers, importers, manufacturers and suppliers

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person designs, imports, manufactures, modifies or supplies plant or equipment for use at a particular operating plant; and
 - (b) a safety requirement applies to that type of plant or equipment.
- (2) The person must take reasonable steps to ensure the plant or equipment, as designed, imported, manufactured, modified or supplied, complies with the safety requirement.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (3) If the person becomes aware of a defect or hazard associated with the plant or equipment, the person must take reasonable steps to inform the operator, or proposed operator, of the operating plant of—
 - (a) the nature of the defect or hazard and its significance; and
 - (b) any controls or modifications the person is aware of that have been developed to eliminate or correct the defect or hazard or to manage the risk.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

697 Installers

- (1) If a safety requirement applies to a type of plant or equipment, a person must not install plant or equipment of that type at an operating plant, or proposed operating plant, unless the installation complies with the safety requirement.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

- (2) If the person is or becomes, aware of a safety risk in relation to the plant or equipment or the installation before the plant or equipment becomes operational, the person—
 - (a) must not operate the plant or equipment; and
 - (b) must give the operator of the operating plant, or proposed operating plant, notice of the safety risk.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

- (3) The person must, before making the plant or equipment operational, certify in the approved form that the installation complies with all relevant safety requirements.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

- (4) In this section—

operator, of a proposed operating plant, means the person who will be the operator of the plant when it becomes operational.

Division 2 Operating plant owners

698 Owner must ensure operator is competent

A person who owns an operating plant must ensure the person operating the plant has the necessary competencies to operate the plant.

Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.

Division 3 Control and management of risk at operating plant

699 General obligation to keep risk to acceptable level

Each person at an operating plant must, to the extent of the person's duties and responsibilities under this Act or the safety management plan for the plant, take all necessary and reasonable action to ensure no person or property is exposed to more than an acceptable level of risk.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

699A Operator's obligation for particular adjacent or overlapping authorities

The operator of an operating plant must not carry out an activity at the plant if the activity creates an unacceptable level of risk to—

- (a) a person or operating plant at adjacent or overlapping coal mining operations under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act; or
- (b) a person carrying out authorised activities or for an operating plant used to carry out authorised activities under an adjacent or overlapping petroleum tenure, 1923 Act petroleum tenure or GHG tenure.

Maximum penalty—1500 penalty units.

700 What is an *acceptable level of risk*

- (1) For a risk to a person or property to be at an *acceptable level*, the activities must be carried out so that the level of risk for the activities—
 - (a) is within acceptable safety limits, having regard to each relevant safety requirement; and
 - (b) is as low as is reasonably practicable.
- (2) To decide whether the level of risk is within acceptable safety limits and as low as reasonably practicable, regard must be made to—
 - (a) the likelihood of injury or illness to a person, or of property damage, from the risk; and
 - (b) the probable severity of the injury, illness or damage; and
 - (c) whether or not the risk is avoidable by reasonable means.

701 When acceptable level of risk is achieved

An acceptable level of risk to a person or property, from activities at an operating plant is achieved if management and operating systems are in effect that—

- (a) identify, analyse and assess risk; and
- (b) remove, minimise or modify unacceptable or avoidable risks; and
- (c) monitor levels of risk; and

- (d) investigate and analyse the cause of actual, or high potential, incidents at the plant to prevent or reduce their recurrence; and
- (e) review the effectiveness of implemented risk control measures, and take appropriate corrective and preventative action; and
- (f) comply with any relevant regulation.

Division 4 Other obligations of persons at operating plant

702 Requirement to comply with safety management plan

A person at an operating plant must comply with safety procedures and other obligations under the safety management plan for the plant to the extent the procedures and obligations apply to the person.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

703 Requirement to comply with instructions

A person at an operating plant must comply with lawful instructions given for the safety of persons by the operator of, or a supervisor for, the plant.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

704 Wilful or reckless acts or omissions that affect safety

A person at an operating plant must not wilfully or recklessly do an act or make an omission that might adversely affect the safety of anyone at the plant.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

Division 5 Additional obligations of operator of operating plant on coal or oil shale mining lease

Subdivision 1 Principal hazard management plans

705 Application of sdiv 1

This subdivision applies if—

- (a) an operating plant, other than a coal mining-CSG operating plant, is operated—
 - (i) in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease; or
 - (ii) in the area of a GHG lease; or
 - (iii) in an area adjacent to the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease or GHG lease; and
- (b) the operation of the plant physically affects, or may physically affect, the safe and efficient mining of coal or oil shale under the mining lease or GHG storage activities under the GHG lease.

705A Requirement to have principal hazard management plan

- (1) The operator of the operating plant must—
 - (a) make a principal hazard management plan for the operating plant that complies with section 705B; and
 - (b) before making the plan—
 - (i) make reasonable attempts to consult with the mining lease or GHG lease holder about the plan; and
 - (ii) subject to subsection (3), have regard to any reasonable provisions for the plan proposed by the mining lease or GHG lease holder; and
 - (c) comply with the plan.

Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.

- (2) For subsection (1)(b)(i), the operator is taken to have made reasonable attempts to consult if—
- (a) the operator gives the mining lease or GHG lease holder a copy of the operator's proposed principal hazard management plan; and
 - (b) the mining lease or GHG lease holder has not, within 30 days after the giving of the copy, made any proposal to the operator about provisions for the plan.
- (3) The obligation under subsection (1)(b)(ii) applies only to the extent the provisions are commercially and technically feasible for the operator or any relevant petroleum tenure holder or GHG tenure holder.

705B Content requirements for principal hazard management plan

For section 705A, the principal hazard management plan for the operating plant must—

- (a) identify the triggers or material changes or effects, or the likely triggers, material changes or effects, that must be monitored, including, for example, specific purpose boundary monitoring, if required; and

Examples of monitoring that may be required—

the monitoring of wellhead pressures, water levels and gas quality changes and coal seam gas piezometric monitoring

- (b) for each matter identified under paragraph (a)—
- (i) state response procedures and times; and
 - (ii) state the type of action required for the response; and

Examples of action that may be required—

1 a risk analysis

2 notice to a mining lease holder of—

- (a) any drop in hydrostatic pressure that may show a potential hazard to the mining of coal under the mining lease; or

- (b) any change in water that may show fluid interconnections with any adjacent mining lease
- (c) identify response and reporting requirements for petroleum wells or GHG wells under the GHG storage Act that are planned to, or may, intersect with mine workings under the mining lease.

705C Resolving disputes about provision proposed by mining lease or GHG lease holder

- (1) This section applies if a dispute exists between the operator and the mining lease or GHG lease holder about the reasonableness of a provision proposed by the mining lease or GHG lease holder for the operator's proposed principal hazard management plan for the operating plant.
- (2) Either party to the dispute may refer it to the chief inspector to decide whether the proposed provision is reasonable.
- (3) The referral must be—
 - (a) written; and
 - (b) lodged at the following office (the *relevant office*)—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the referral, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector;
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief inspector.
- (4) Before deciding the dispute, the chief inspector must give each party a reasonable opportunity to lodge at the relevant office submissions about the dispute.
- (5) The chief inspector's decision binds each party to the dispute.
- (6) The chief inspector must give each party an information notice about the decision.
- (7) The chief inspector's decision is not, of itself, evidence that a principal hazard management plan, or purported principal hazard management plan, for an operating plant complies with section 705B.

Subdivision 2 Additional reporting requirement

705D Reporting of particular accidents and prescribed high potential incidents

- (1) This section applies to the operator of operating plant, other than a coal mining-CSG operating plant, operated in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease.
- (2) The operator must, on becoming aware that a designated accident or incident has happened immediately report the accident or incident, either orally or by notice.
- (3) If the operator makes an oral report under subsection (2), the operator must confirm the report by notice within 48 hours.
- (4) The report and confirmation must be made to—
 - (a) to the senior site executive under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act for the coal mine the subject of the mining lease; and
 - (b) the chief inspector.
- (5) In this section—

designated accident or incident means an accident or incident as follows that relates to the safety of any coal mining operation—

- (a) an accident that causes—
 - (i) the death of a person; or
 - (ii) a person to be admitted to a hospital as an in-patient for treatment for a bodily injury endangering, or likely to endanger, the person's life; or
 - (iii) a person to suffer an injury causing, or likely to cause, a permanent injury to the person's health;

- (b) a high potential incident of a type prescribed under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act, section 198(2)(b).²⁴⁷

Division 6 Prescribed incident reporting and security of incident sites

706 Requirement to report prescribed incident

- (1) A regulation may prescribe for incidents happening at an operating plant or for incidents relating to a gas related device—
 - (a) the types of incidents (*prescribed incidents*) that must be reported to the chief inspector; and
 - (b) the way in which prescribed incidents must be reported.

- (2) If a prescribed incident happens at an operating plant, the operator of the plant must ensure that the incident is reported to the chief inspector in the prescribed way.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

- (3) If a prescribed incident happens at a business other than at an operating plant and the prescribed incident relates to a gas related device, the person carrying on the business must ensure that the incident is reported to the chief inspector in the prescribed way.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

- (4) For subsections (2) and (3), the incident must be reported—
 - (a) within the period prescribed under a regulation; or
 - (b) if no period is prescribed—immediately.

- (5) A person is taken to have complied with subsection (2) or (3) if the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act, section 198(1),

247 Coal Mining Safety and Health Act, section 198 (Notice of accidents, incidents, deaths or diseases)

For the prescribed high potential incidents, see the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Regulation 2001*, schedule 1 (Types of high potential incidents for section 198 of the Act).

applies to the person and the person has complied with that subsection.

707 Obligation to restrict access to incident site

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a prescribed incident happens at an operating plant; or
 - (b) a prescribed incident relating to a gas related device happens at a business other than an operating plant.
- (2) If the operator of the operating plant or person carrying on the business is required to immediately report the incident to the chief inspector under section 706, the operator or person must, until an inspector otherwise directs, take action reasonably necessary to—
 - (a) restrict access to the site at which the prescribed incident happened or is happening; and
 - (b) protect anything at the site from being tampered with.

Example of action—

erecting barriers or signs prohibiting unauthorised persons from entering the site

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (3) An inspector may take action, or direct the operator of the operating plant or person carrying on the business to take a particular action, the inspector considers reasonably necessary to—
 - (a) restrict access to the site at which the prescribed incident happened or is happening; and
 - (b) protect anything at the site from being tampered with.
- (4) The operator of the operating plant or person carrying on the business must comply with a direction given to the operator or person under subsection (3).

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

708 Offence to enter or remain in incident site if access restricted

- (1) This section applies if, under section 707, action has been taken to restrict access to the site of a prescribed incident.
- (2) A person must not enter, or remain in, the site unless the person—
 - (a) is an inspector, or is authorised by an inspector; or
 - (b) enters, or remains in, the site to save life or prevent further injury.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (3) A person on the site, other than an inspector, must take all reasonable steps to minimise disturbance of the site.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

Division 7 Obligation to comply with safety requirements and instructions**708A Offence not to comply with safety requirement**

- (1) A person must comply with all safety requirements.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to sections 696, 697, 733 and 734.

708B Chief inspector may issue safety alerts and instructions

- (1) A safety alert is advisory only and may recommend that a person or the general public do or not do something.
- (2) A safety instruction is a direction requiring a person or the general public to do or not do something.
- (3) If the chief inspector believes there is a specific safety issue in relation to the petroleum or fuel gas industry or to GHG storage activities, the chief inspector may issue a safety alert or safety instruction to particular persons or the general public.

- (4) A safety alert or safety instruction—
 - (a) must relate to a specific safety issue in relation to the petroleum or fuel gas industry; and
 - (b) may be inconsistent with relevant safety requirements.
- (5) If a safety instruction is inconsistent with a relevant safety requirement the safety instruction prevails.
- (6) A safety alert or safety instruction is issued by—
 - (a) if the announcement is to particular persons—giving written notice of the announcement to the persons; or
 - (b) if the advice is to the general public in a particular area—by publishing notice of the advice in a newspaper circulating in the area; or
 - (c) if the advice is to the general public throughout the State—by publishing notice of the advice in a newspaper circulating in each city in the State.
- (7) A safety instruction must also be published in the gazette.
- (8) A safety instruction stays in force until the earliest of the following—
 - (a) the expiration of 6 months after the day it is made;
 - (b) the chief inspector cancels the instruction;
 - (c) a regulation replaces the instruction.
- (9) A safety instruction may be amended by the chief inspector while the instruction is in force, but an amendment can not extend the 6 months mentioned in subsection (8)(a).
- (10) A person to whom a safety instruction applies must comply with the instruction, unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

Part 4A Other safety offences

708C Protection from reprisal

- (1) A person must not cause, or attempt or conspire to cause, detriment to another person because, or in the belief that, the other person—
 - (a) has made a complaint, or in any other way has raised, an operating plant safety issue; or
 - (b) has contacted or given help to an official, an executive safety manager or a site safety manager in relation to an operating plant safety issue.

Maximum penalty—40 penalty units.

- (2) An attempt to cause detriment includes an attempt to induce a person to cause detriment.
- (3) A contravention of subsection (1) is a reprisal or the taking of a reprisal.
- (4) A ground mentioned in subsection (1) as the ground for a reprisal is the unlawful ground for the reprisal.
- (5) For the contravention to happen, it is sufficient if the unlawful ground is a substantial ground for the act or omission that is the reprisal, even if there is another ground for the act or omission.
- (6) This section does not limit or otherwise affect the operation of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010*, chapter 4, part 1 in relation to reprisals.
- (7) In this section—

operating plant safety issue means an issue about the safety or health of a person or persons while at an operating plant or as a result of operating plant operations.

708D Damages entitlement for reprisal

- (1) A reprisal is a tort and a person who takes a reprisal is liable in damages to anyone who suffers detriment as a result.

- (2) Any appropriate remedy that may be granted by a court for a tort may be granted by a court for the taking of a reprisal.
- (3) If the claim for the damages goes to trial in the Supreme Court or the District Court, it must be decided by a judge sitting without a jury.

Part 5 Boards of inquiry

Division 1 Establishment and functions

709 Minister may establish board of inquiry

- (1) The Minister may, by gazette notice, establish a board of inquiry for a prescribed incident, other than an accident or incident for which a board of inquiry has been established under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act, section 202(1).
- (2) The notice must state matters relevant to the inquiry including, for example, its chairperson and terms of reference.

710 Membership of board

- (1) A board of inquiry must consist of—
 - (a) a magistrate; and
 - (b) no more than 3 independent persons with appropriate expert knowledge relevant to the prescribed incident the subject of the inquiry.
- (2) The Minister must appoint the members of the board of inquiry.
- (3) The magistrate is chairperson of the board.

711 Board's functions

- (1) A board of inquiry must—

- (a) inquire into the circumstances and probable causes of the prescribed incident the subject of the inquiry; and
 - (b) give the Minister a report of the board's findings as to the cause of the prescribed incident.
- (2) The report must record the recommendations the board considers appropriate and other relevant matters.
- (3) The Minister must publish the recommendations in the way the Minister considers appropriate.

Division 2 Conduct of inquiry

712 Notice of inquiry

The chairperson of a board of inquiry must give at least 14 days notice of the time and place of the inquiry to—

- (a) anyone the chairperson considers may be concerned with the prescribed incident the subject of the inquiry; and
- (b) anyone else the chairperson reasonably believes should be given the opportunity to appear at the inquiry.

713 Inquiry procedures

A board of inquiry, in conducting its inquiry—

- (a) must observe natural justice; and
- (b) must act as quickly, and with as little formality and technicality, as is consistent with a fair and appropriate consideration of the issues; and
- (c) is not bound by the rules of evidence; and
- (d) may conduct itself in a way it considers appropriate, including, for example, by holding hearings; and
- (e) must keep a record of its proceedings; and
- (f) must comply with this division and procedural rules prescribed under a regulation.

714 Inquiry to be public unless board directs

- (1) A board or inquiry must hold its inquiry in public.
- (2) However, the board may, of its own initiative or on the application of a person represented at the inquiry—
 - (a) direct the inquiry, or part of the inquiry, be held in private; and
 - (b) give directions about who may be present.
- (3) The board may give a direction under subsection (2) only if it is satisfied it is appropriate to do so.

715 Protection of members, representatives and witnesses

- (1) A member of the board of inquiry has, in performing the member's functions, the same immunity and protection as a Supreme Court judge.
- (2) A lawyer or other person appearing before the board for someone else has the same immunity and protection as a barrister appearing for a party in a proceeding in the Supreme Court.
- (3) A person summoned to attend or appearing before the board as a witness has the same protection as a witness in a proceeding in the Supreme Court.

716 Board's powers for inquiry

- (1) A board of inquiry, in conducting its inquiry, may if it considers it appropriate—
 - (a) act in the absence of a person given notice of the inquiry or some other reasonable notice; and
 - (b) receive evidence on oath or by statutory declaration; and
 - (c) adjourn the inquiry; and
 - (d) disregard a defect, error, omission or insufficiency in a document.
- (2) The chairperson of the board may administer an oath to a person appearing as a witness before the inquiry.

717 Who may participate at inquiry

A person given notice of the inquiry may call, examine, cross-examine and re-examine witnesses, personally or by lawyer or another agent.

718 Witnesses

- (1) The chairperson may, by a notice given to a person (a *witness*), require the person to attend the inquiry at a stated time and place to give evidence or produce stated documents or things.
- (2) A witness must—
 - (a) comply with the notice unless the witness has a reasonable excuse; or
 - (b) continue to attend as required by the chairperson unless the witness has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (3) The chairperson must pay a witness the witness fee prescribed under a regulation or, if no fee is prescribed, the fee the chairperson considers to be reasonable.
- (4) A witness must—
 - (a) take an oath, or make an affirmation, when required to do so by the chairperson; or
 - (b) answer a question or produce a document or thing when required to do so by the chairperson unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (5) It is a reasonable excuse if answering the question or producing the document or thing might tend to incriminate the witness.

719 Inspection by board of documents or things

- (1) If a document or thing is produced at the inquiry, the board may—
 - (a) inspect the document or thing; and

- (b) make copies of, photograph, or take extracts from, the document or thing if it is relevant to the inquiry.
- (2) The board may also take possession of the document or thing, and keep it while it is necessary for the inquiry.
- (3) While it keeps a document or thing, the board must allow a person otherwise entitled to possession of the document or thing to inspect, make copies of, photograph, or take extracts from, the document or thing, at a place and time the board considers to be reasonable.

Division 3 Miscellaneous provisions

720 Relationship with proceedings

A board of inquiry may start, continue or finish its proceedings, and a report may be prepared or given, despite a proceeding, unless a court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction orders otherwise.

721 False or misleading statements or document to board

- (1) A person must not state anything to a board of inquiry that the person knows is false or misleading in a material particular.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) A person must not give a board of inquiry a document or thing the person knows is false or misleading in a material particular.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

722 Contempt of board

A person must not—

- (a) insult a board of inquiry; or
- (b) deliberately interrupt an inquiry of a board of inquiry; or
- (c) create or continue, or join in creating or continuing, a disturbance in or near a place where a board of inquiry is conducting its inquiry; or

- (d) do anything that would be contempt of court if a board of inquiry were a judge acting judicially.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

723 Change of board membership

A board of inquiry is not affected by a change in its membership.

Part 6 Restrictions on gas work

Division 1 Preliminary

724 Types of gas device

- (1) A *gas device (type A)* is a device, or system of devices, used, or designed or intended for use for a purpose mentioned in subsection (2), the design of which has been certified by any of the following as complying with safety requirements applying to that type of device—
- (a) the chief inspector;
 - (b) a person or body approved by the chief inspector.

Examples of a gas device (type A)—

a gas cooker or hot water service

- (2) For subsection (1), the purposes are—
- (a) for production of heat, light or power using fuel gas; or
 - (b) for refrigeration for which fuel gas is the fuel; or
 - (c) as a propellant.
- (3) A *gas device (type B)* is a device used, or designed or intended for use—
- (a) for a purpose mentioned in subsection (2) that has not been certified as mentioned in subsection (1); or

- (b) for refrigeration for which gas is the refrigerant; or
- (c) in a manufacturing process if the device uses fuel gas.

Examples of gas devices (type B)—

- a fuel gas system for a motor vehicle or vessel
- a major industrial plant

725 What is *gas work*

Gas work is the work of installing, removing, altering, repairing, servicing, testing or certifying the gas system of a gas device.

Division 2 Restrictions

726 Gas work for which licence is required

- (1) A person must not carry out gas work in relation to the following unless the person holds a gas work licence that allows the person to carry out the work—
 - (a) a gas device (type A);
 - (b) a fuel gas refrigeration device.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) A person must not direct a worker at a place to carry out gas work in relation to a gas device mentioned in subsection (1) unless the worker holds a gas work licence that allows the worker to carry out the work.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (3) A person must not direct a worker at a place to carry out gas work relating to a gas device mentioned in subsection (1) in a way that contravenes a relevant safety requirement.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (4) A person does not commit an offence against subsection (1) if the gas work is only the connection or disconnection of a gas cylinder to an existing gas fitting or gas device.

727 Gas work for which authorisation is required

- (1) A person must not carry out gas work in relation to a gas device (type B) unless—
- (a) a gas work authorisation has been issued for the device; and
 - (b) the person holds the authorisation, or is acting under the holder's authority; and
 - (c) the work complies with the authorisation.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply to a fuel gas refrigeration device.
- (3) A person does not commit an offence under subsection (1) if—
- (a) the gas work is carried out at an operating plant under a safety management plan, other than a safety management plan that is a generic SMP for that stage of the plant, and the person carrying out the work has been assessed as competent to carry out the work under the plan; or
 - (b) the gas work is gas work relating to pipes used to supply gas to a gas device (type B), and the person carrying out the work holds a gas work licence that allows the person to carry out that work; or
 - (c) the gas work is carried out at a facility that has, under the *Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001*, been classified as a major hazard facility, if—
 - (i) the work is carried out under a safety management system under that Act; and
 - (ii) the person carrying out the work has been assessed, under the safety management system, as competent to carry out the work.

- (4) A person must not direct a worker at a place to carry out gas work relating to a gas device (type B) in a way that contravenes a relevant safety requirement.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

Division 3 Gas work licences and authorisations

Subdivision 1 Applying for and obtaining gas work licence or authorisation

728 Who may apply

- (1) An individual may apply to the chief inspector for a gas work licence to carry out gas work in relation to—
 - (a) a gas device (type A) or a type of gas device (type A); or
 - (b) a fuel gas refrigeration device or a type of fuel gas refrigeration device.
- (2) An individual or a corporation may apply to the chief inspector for a gas work authorisation for a gas device (type B) or a type of gas device (type B), other than a fuel gas refrigeration device.
- (3) If the applicant is an individual, the application may also seek an endorsement on any gas work licence issued that its holder also carries out work in relation to gases other than fuel gases.

Example—

an endorsement that the holder carries out work in relation to the use of hydrogen as transport fuel or the use of oxygen for medical purposes

728A Requirements for application

The application must be—

- (a) in the approved form; and
- (b) lodged at the office of the chief inspector; and
- (c) accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

728B Interim licence or authorisation

- (1) This section applies if the chief inspector considers that the applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the applicant

has the competencies and skills to hold the gas work licence or authorisation applied for.

- (2) The chief inspector may grant the applicant an interim gas work licence or authorisation (the *interim authority*).
- (3) The chief inspector may impose conditions on the interim authority.
- (4) The interim authority must be for a stated term of no more than 1 year.
- (5) The chief inspector may extend the term of the interim authority to a term that ends no more than 1 year after the end of its term as stated in the authority.
- (6) However, the chief inspector may extend the term more than once only if satisfied exceptional circumstances justify the further extension.
- (7) If, within the term of the interim authority, the chief inspector considers the applicant has adequately demonstrated that the applicant has the competencies and skills to hold the gas work licence or authorisation applied for, the chief inspector must—
 - (a) grant the application; and
 - (b) cancel the interim authority.
- (8) Otherwise, the chief inspector must refuse the application at the end of the term of the interim authority.

728C Deciding application

- (1) Subject to section 728B, the chief inspector must decide whether to grant or refuse the application.
- (2) However, the chief inspector must refuse the application if the applicant—
 - (a) does not have the qualifications or experience prescribed under a regulation for the type of gas work licence or authorisation applied for; or
 - (b) is not a suitable person to hold the gas work licence or authorisation.

- (3) If the chief inspector decides to grant the application, the chief inspector may—
 - (a) limit the gas work licence or authorisation to a stated type of gas work; or
 - (b) impose conditions on the gas work licence or authorisation.
- (5) If the chief inspector makes a decision as follows, the chief inspector must give the applicant an information notice about the decision—
 - (a) a decision to refuse the application;
 - (b) a decision to impose a condition on, or to limit, the gas work licence or authorisation, other than a condition or limitation agreed to or requested by the applicant.
- (6) In deciding whether the applicant is a suitable person to hold the gas work licence or authorisation, the chief inspector may have regard to the following—
 - (a) whether the applicant has been convicted of an indictable offence;
 - (b) whether the applicant has been convicted of an offence against the repealed *Gas Act 1965* or this Act;
 - (c) any disability or medical condition the applicant has that could put the applicant or the public at risk;
 - (d) any other issue relevant to the applicant's suitability to hold the gas work licence or authorisation.

728D Term of gas work licence or authorisation

- (1) A gas work licence or authorisation may be issued for a stated term.
- (2) If no term is stated, the gas work licence or authorisation continues in force unless it is cancelled, suspended or surrendered under this Act.

Subdivision 2 General provisions for gas work licences and authorisations

729 Offence not to comply with conditions

The holder of a gas work licence or authorisation must comply with its conditions.

Maximum penalty—250 penalty units.

730 Register of gas work licences and authorisations

The chief inspector must keep a register of details about gas work licences and authorisations.

731 Access to register

- (1) The chief inspector must—
 - (a) keep the register of gas work licences and authorisations open for inspection by the public during office hours on business days at—
 - (i) the department's head office; and
 - (ii) other places the chief inspector considers appropriate; and
 - (b) allow a person to take extracts, free of charge, from the register; and
 - (c) give a person who asks for a copy of all or part of a document or information held in the register the copy on payment of the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) This section does not apply to any part of the register that discloses the residential address of—
 - (a) a gas work licence or authorisation holder who is an individual; or
 - (b) an individual authorised by a gas work authorisation holder to carry out gas work.

Part 7 Miscellaneous provisions

732 **Increase in maximum penalties in circumstances of aggravation**

- (1) This section provides for the maximum penalty for an offence against a provision of part 2, 4 or 6 if the act or omission that constitutes the offence caused a circumstance stated in subsection (3).
- (2) If a circumstance stated in subsection (3) has happened, the maximum penalty stated in the subsection applies instead of the maximum penalty stated in another provision.
- (3) For this section, the circumstances and maximum penalties are—
 - (a) for the death of, or grievous bodily harm to, more than 1 person—5000 penalty units or 3 years imprisonment; or
 - (b) for the death of, or grievous bodily harm to, only 1 person—3000 penalty units or 2 years imprisonment; or
 - (c) for the exposure of anyone to a substance likely to cause death or grievous bodily harm—1000 penalty units or 1 year's imprisonment; or
 - (d) for bodily harm—1000 penalty units or 1 year's imprisonment; or
 - (e) for serious property damage—1000 penalty units or 6 months imprisonment.

732A **Defences for certain offences**

- (1) This section provides defences in a proceeding against a person for a contravention of section 677, 688, 693, 699, 702, 703 or 704 (the *relevant sections*).
- (2) To the extent the contravention is a contravention of a particular safety requirement, it is a defence in the proceedings to prove—
 - (a) if a regulation was made about the way to ensure the safety requirement was to be met—the person followed

- the way prescribed in the regulation to ensure the safety requirement was met; or
- (b) subject to paragraph (a), if a recognised standard was made stating a way or ways to ensure the safety requirement was to be met—
- (i) that the person adopted and followed a stated way to ensure the safety requirement was met; or
- (ii) that the person adopted and followed another way that ensured the safety requirement was met that was equal to or better than the stated way for ensuring the safety requirement was met; or
- (c) if no regulation or recognised standard prescribes or states a way to discharge the person's obligation in relation to the safety requirement—that the person took reasonable precautions and exercised proper diligence to ensure the safety requirement was met.
- (3) Also, it is a defence in a proceeding against a person for an offence against the relevant sections for the person to prove that the contravention was due to causes over which the person had no control.
- (4) The Criminal Code, sections 23(1) and 24 do not apply in relation to a contravention of section 677, 688, 693, 699, 702, 703 or 704.
- (5) In this section—

recognised standard means a recognised standard in force at the time of the contravention.

safety requirement means a requirement—

- (a) a person must comply with to ensure the safety of another person; or
- (b) that a person must not do an act or make an omission that affects the safety of another person.

732B Technical advisory committees

- (1) The chief inspector may establish technical advisory committees to consider matters relating to safety, quality, and measurement.

Examples of matters for subsection (1)—

- proposed regulation exemptions from requirements relating to coal seam gas
 - reviewing safety requirements
 - developing relevant protocols or standards
- (2) The chief inspector may decide the following for a technical advisory committee—
- (a) its functions or terms of reference;
 - (b) its membership;
 - (c) who is to be its chairperson.
- (3) The chief inspector may call for nominations for a technical advisory committee from relevant stakeholder organisations.

733 Approval of gas devices and gas fittings for supply, installation and use

- (1) A person must not supply a gas device (type A) or a gas fitting, or install or use any type of gas device or gas fitting, unless—
- (a) the supply, installation or use has been approved by—
 - (i) the chief inspector; or
 - (ii) a person or body approved by the chief inspector for the particular type of gas device or gas fitting; and
 - (b) if a regulation prescribes a label for the gas device or gas fitting—the gas device or gas fitting complies with any relevant labelling requirements prescribed under the regulation.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (2) Also, a person must not supply a gas device unless the person gives the person to whom the device is supplied a written notice in the approved form stating that the installation and use of the device must be approved under subsection (1)(a).

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (3) An approval under subsection (1)(a) in relation to a gas device or gas fitting, that has been given by a person or body other than the chief inspector, ceases to have force only if the approval is cancelled or suspended by the approved person or body with the written consent of the chief inspector.

733A False or misleading labels or records

A person must not attach or cause to be attached a label or other record to a gas device or gas fitting if the label or record is false or misleading in a material particular.

Example of other record—

a compliance plate

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

734 Requirements for gas system installation

- (1) If a safety requirement applies to a type of gas system, a person must not install a system of that type unless the installation complies with the safety requirement.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

- (3) If a person installs all or part of a gas system, the person must, within the period or at the stage of installation prescribed under a regulation—
- (a) give, to the person prescribed under a regulation, a certificate in the approved form about the installation and the gas system; and
 - (b) if a regulation prescribes a compliance plate for the installation—the compliance plate is attached in the way prescribed under the regulation.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

Note—

See also part 6, division 2 (Restrictions).

734A Safety obligations of gas system installer

- (1) This section applies if—

Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004

- (a) a person installs all or part of, or carries out gas work relating to, a gas system; and
 - (b) the person has a safety concern relating to the gas system.
- (2) For subsection (1), the person has a **safety concern** relating to the gas system if the person knows or suspects, or ought reasonably to know or suspect that—
- (a) the gas system does not or may not comply with all relevant safety requirements; or
 - (b) an imminent risk of material harm to persons or property is likely if action is not taken to avoid, eliminate or minimise the risk.
- (3) The person must give the owner, operator or proposed operator of the gas system notice of the noncompliance or risk, in the approved form.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

- (4) Subsections (5) and (6) apply if the safety concern relates to a risk mentioned in subsection (2)(b).
- (5) The person must take appropriate measures to avoid, eliminate or minimise the risk.

Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.

Example of an appropriate measure—

The risk is fuel gas leaking from a gas device that forms part of the gas system. An appropriate measure is to isolate fuel gas supply to the device.

- (6) The person must, by telephone, immediately report details of the following to an inspector and the operator of the distribution system or LPG delivery network that supplies fuel gas to the gas system—
- (a) the risk;
 - (b) the measures taken under subsection (5).

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

- (7) In this section—

operator, of a distribution system or LPG delivery network, means the person responsible for the management and safe operation of the system or network.

Chapter 10 Conferences, investigations and enforcement

Part 1AA Conferences with eligible claimants or owners and occupiers

Division 1 Preliminary

734B Application of pt 1AA

- (1) This part applies if an authorised officer is given an election notice by a petroleum authority holder or an eligible claimant asking for a conference.
- (2) This part also applies if—
 - (a) an owner or occupier of land who is concerned about any of the following gives an authorised officer notice of the concerns—
 - (i) that someone claiming to act under a petroleum authority, or to have entered land on the authority holder's instructions—
 - (A) is not authorised to be on the land; or
 - (B) is not complying with a provision of this Act or a condition of the petroleum authority;
 - (ii) activities being, or proposed to be, carried out on the land apparently under a petroleum authority (including when the activities are being, or are to be, carried out);

- (iii) the conduct on the land of someone apparently acting under a petroleum authority; or
- (b) a petroleum authority holder who is concerned about something relevant to the authority involving the holder and the owner or occupier of land gives an authorised officer notice of the concerns; or
- (c) for another reason, an authorised officer considers it desirable to call a conference to discuss concerns about a petroleum authority.

Division 2 Calling conference and attendance

734C Calling conference

- (1) If this part applies because of the giving of an election notice, the authorised officer must, by notice, ask the petroleum authority holder and the eligible claimant (the *parties*) to attend a conference by the authorised officer about negotiating a conduct and compensation agreement.
- (2) If this part applies under section 734B(2), the authorised officer may, by notice, ask the petroleum authority holder and the owner or occupier or other person with an interest in the concerns (also the *parties*) to attend a conference by the authorised officer about the concerns.
- (3) The notice must state when and where the conference will be held and what is to be discussed at the conference.

734D Who may attend conference

- (1) Apart from the authorised officer, anyone given notice of the conference may attend and take part in the conference.
- (2) Also, with the authorised officer's approval, someone else may be present to help a person attending the conference.
- (3) However, a party can not be represented by a lawyer unless the parties agree and the authorised officer is satisfied there is no disadvantage to a party.

734E What happens if a party does not attend

- (1) This section applies if a party given notice of the conference does not attend.
- (2) The authorised officer may hold the conference even though someone given notice of it does not attend.

Note—

If the conference was called because of an election notice and only 1 party attends, the Land Court may decide the issue of compensation. See section 537B.

- (3) A party who attended the conference may apply to the Land Court for an order requiring the party who did not attend to pay the attending party's reasonable costs of attending.
- (4) The Land Court must not order the party who did not attend to pay costs if it is satisfied the party had a reasonable excuse for not attending.
- (5) If the Land Court makes the order, it must decide the amount of the costs.

Division 3 Conduct of conference**734F Authorised officer's role**

- (1) In conducting the conference, the authorised officer must endeavour to help those attending to reach an early and inexpensive settlement of the subject of the conference.
- (2) Subject to section 537AB, the authorised officer is to decide how the conference is to be conducted.

734G Statements made at conference

Nothing said by a person at the conference is admissible in evidence in a proceeding without the person's consent.

734H Agreement made at conference

- (1) If, at the conference, the parties negotiate an agreement about the concerns the subject of the conference, the agreement must be written and signed by or for the parties.

- (2) The agreement—
 - (a) may, if appropriate, be a conduct and compensation agreement or an amendment of an existing conduct and compensation agreement between the parties; and
 - (b) has the same effect as any other compromise.

Part 1 Investigations

Division 1 Inspectors and authorised officers

735 Appointment

- (1) The chief executive may appoint a public service officer as one of the following—
 - (a) the chief inspector, petroleum and gas;
 - (b) the deputy chief inspector, petroleum and gas;
 - (c) an inspector, petroleum and gas;
 - (d) an authorised officer.
- (2) However, the chief executive may appoint a person under subsection (1) only if satisfied the person is qualified for appointment and has the necessary expertise or experience.

736 Functions

- (1) The functions of an inspector include each of the following—
 - (a) conducting audits, inspections and investigations to monitor and enforce compliance with safety management plans and—
 - (i) the provisions of this Act relating to safety; and
 - (ii) the provisions of the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004*; and
 - (iii) the provisions of the GHG storage Act;
 - (b) investigating incidents;

- (c) responding to dangerous and emergency situations involving petroleum or fuel gas, a geothermal energy activity or GHG streams;
 - (d) collecting information for this Act, the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004* or the GHG storage Act.
- (2) The functions of an authorised officer include—
- (a) conducting audits, investigations and inspections to monitor and enforce compliance with provisions of this Act other than provisions relating to safety, and the provisions of the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004* and the GHG storage Act; and
 - (b) collecting information for this Act, the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004* and the GHG storage Act.
- (3) An inspector or authorised officer is declared to be a public official for the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* if the inspector or authorised officer is performing, or is proposing to perform, a function the inspector or authorised officer has under this section.²⁴⁸

737 Appointment conditions and limit on powers

- (1) A person who is an inspector or authorised officer holds office on any conditions stated in—
- (a) the person's instrument of appointment; or
 - (b) a signed notice given to the person.
- (2) The instrument of appointment, a signed notice given to the person or a regulation may limit the person's functions or powers under this Act for the office.
- (3) An inspector is also subject to the directions of the chief inspector in exercising the functions or powers.
- (4) In this section—
- signed notice*** means a notice signed by—
- (a) for the chief inspector—the chief executive; or

²⁴⁸ See the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000*, chapter 1, part 3, division 2 (Helping public officials).

- (b) for another inspector—the chief inspector; or
- (c) for an authorised officer—the chief executive.

738 Issue of identity card

- (1) The chief executive must issue an identity card to each person who is an inspector or authorised officer.
- (2) The identity card must—
 - (a) contain a recent photo of the person; and
 - (b) contain a copy of the person’s signature; and
 - (c) identify the person as an inspector or authorised officer under this Act; and
 - (d) state an expiry date for the card.
- (3) This section does not prevent the issue of a single identity card to a person for this Act and other purposes.

739 Production or display of identity card

- (1) In exercising a power under this Act in relation to another person, an inspector or authorised officer must—
 - (a) produce his or her identity card for the person’s inspection before exercising the power; or
 - (b) have the identity card displayed so it is clearly visible to the person when exercising the power.
- (2) However, if it is not practicable to comply with subsection (1), the inspector or authorised officer must produce the identity card for the person’s inspection at the first reasonable opportunity.
- (3) For subsection (1), an inspector or authorised officer does not exercise a power in relation to a person only because the inspector or officer has entered a place as mentioned in section 743(1)(b) or (2).

740 When inspector or authorised officer ceases to hold office

- (1) A person who is an inspector or authorised officer ceases to hold office if any of the following happens—
 - (a) the term of office stated in a condition of office ends;
 - (b) under another condition of office, the person ceases to hold the office;
 - (c) the person’s resignation under section 741 takes effect.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit the ways the person may cease to hold the office.
- (3) In this section—

condition of office means a condition on which the person holds office.

741 Resignation

An inspector or authorised officer may resign by a signed notice given to the chief executive.

742 Return of identity card

A person who ceases to be an inspector or authorised officer must return the person’s identity card to the chief executive within 20 business days after ceasing to be an inspector or authorised officer unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

Division 2 Powers of entry of inspectors and authorised officers**743 Power of entry—general**

- (1) An inspector or authorised officer may enter a place if—
 - (a) its occupier consents to the entry; or
 - (b) it is a public place and the entry is made when it is open to the public; or

- (c) the entry is authorised by a warrant; or
 - (d) it is a place of business to which this Act relates and the entry is made when the place is open for business or otherwise open for entry; or
 - (e) its occupier has been given a compliance direction and the entry is made, at a time or interval stated in the direction, to check compliance with the direction; or
 - (f) the inspector or authorised officer may enter the place under sections 744 to 746.
- (2) For the purpose of asking the occupier of a place for consent to enter, an inspector or authorised officer may, without the occupier's consent or a warrant—
- (a) enter land around premises at the place to an extent that is reasonable to contact the occupier; or
 - (b) enter part of the place the inspector or authorised officer reasonably considers members of the public ordinarily are allowed to enter when they wish to contact the occupier.
- (3) In this section—
- place of business* does not include a part of the place where a person resides.

744 Inspector's additional entry power for emergency or incident

- (1) An inspector may enter a place if—
- (a) the inspector reasonably suspects—
 - (i) an emergency exists, or may exist, involving petroleum or fuel gas, a geothermal energy activity or a GHG stream or suspected petroleum or fuel gas, a geothermal energy activity or a GHG stream at the place; and
 - (ii) the emergency is causing, or is likely to cause imminent and significant harm to persons or damage to property; or
 - (b) an incident is happening at the place and—

- (i) the incident is causing harm to persons or property; and
 - (ii) it is reasonably necessary for the inspector to enter the place to investigate and manage the incident to the extent it relates to petroleum or fuel gas, a geothermal energy activity or a GHG stream.
- (2) Before entering the place, the inspector must do, or make a reasonable attempt to do, each of the following things if the occupier of the place or a public official exercising functions or powers in relation to the place is present at the place—
 - (a) identify himself or herself to the occupier or official in the way stated section 739;
 - (b) tell the occupier or official the purpose of the entry;
 - (c) seek the consent of the occupier or official to the entry;
 - (d) tell the occupier or official the inspector is permitted under this Act to enter the place without consent or a warrant;
 - (e) give the occupier or official an opportunity to allow the inspector immediate entry to the place without using force.
- (3) However, the inspector need not comply with subsection (2) if—
 - (a) for entry under subsection (1)(a)—the inspector reasonably believes that immediate entry to the place is required to avoid imminent and significant harm to persons or property; or
 - (b) for entry under subsection (1)(b)—complying with the subsection may frustrate or otherwise prevent an investigation of the incident the subject of the entry.
- (4) In this section—

public official means—

 - (a) a police officer; or
 - (b) a person who is appointed or authorised under a law to perform inspection, investigation or other enforcement functions under the law.

745 Inspector's additional entry power for operating plant

An inspector may, at any reasonable time, enter a place where an operating plant is situated, other than a part of the place where a person resides.

746 Authorised officer's additional entry power for petroleum authority, geothermal exploration permit or GHG authority

An authorised officer may enter the area of a petroleum authority, geothermal exploration permit or GHG authority at any reasonable time, other than a part of the area where a person resides.

Division 3 Procedure for entry**747 Entry with consent**

- (1) This section applies if an inspector or authorised officer intends to ask an occupier of a place to consent to the inspector or authorised officer or another inspector or authorised officer entering the place under section 743(1)(a).
- (2) Before asking for the consent, the inspector or authorised officer must tell the occupier—
 - (a) the purpose of the entry; and
 - (b) that the occupier is not required to consent.
- (3) If the consent is given, the inspector or authorised officer may ask the occupier to sign an acknowledgment of the consent.
- (4) The acknowledgment must state—
 - (a) the occupier has been told—
 - (i) the purpose of the entry; and
 - (ii) that the occupier is not required to consent; and
 - (b) the purpose of the entry; and
 - (c) the occupier gives the inspector or authorised officer consent to enter the place and exercise powers under this division; and

- (d) the time and date the consent was given.
- (5) If the occupier signs the acknowledgment, the inspector or authorised officer must immediately give a copy to the occupier.
- (6) If—
 - (a) an issue arises in a proceeding about whether the occupier consented to the entry; and
 - (b) an acknowledgment complying with subsection (4) for the entry is not produced in evidence;

the onus of proof is on the person relying on the lawfulness of the entry to prove the occupier consented.

748 Application for warrant

- (1) An inspector or authorised officer may apply to a magistrate for a warrant for a place.
- (2) The inspector or authorised officer must prepare a written application that states the grounds on which the warrant is sought.
- (3) The written application must be sworn.
- (4) The magistrate may refuse to consider the application until the inspector or authorised officer gives the magistrate all the information the magistrate requires about the application in the way the magistrate requires.

Example—

The magistrate may require additional information supporting the application to be given by statutory declaration.

749 Issue of warrant

- (1) The magistrate may issue the warrant for the place only if the magistrate is satisfied there are reasonable grounds for suspecting—
 - (a) there is a particular thing or activity (the *evidence*) that may provide evidence of an offence against this Act; and
 - (b) the evidence is at the place or, within the next 7 days, will be at the place.

- (2) The warrant must state—
- (a) the place to which the warrant applies; and
 - (b) that a stated inspector or authorised officer may, with necessary and reasonable help and force—
 - (i) enter the place and any other place necessary for entry to the place; and
 - (ii) exercise the inspector’s or authorised officer’s powers under this part; and
 - (c) particulars of the offence that the magistrate considers appropriate in the circumstances; and
 - (d) the name of the person suspected of having committed the offence, unless the name is unknown or the magistrate considers it inappropriate to state the name; and
 - (e) the evidence that may be seized under the warrant; and
 - (f) the hours of the day or night when the place may be entered; and
 - (g) the magistrate’s name; and
 - (h) the date and time of the warrant’s issue; and
 - (i) the date, within 14 days after the warrant’s issue, the warrant ends.

750 Application by electronic communication and duplicate warrant

- (1) An application under section 749 may be made by phone, fax, email, radio, videoconferencing or another form of electronic communication if the inspector or authorised officer reasonably considers it necessary because of—
- (a) urgent circumstances; or
 - (b) other special circumstances, including, for example, the inspector’s or authorised officer’s remote location.
- (2) The application—

- (a) may not be made before the inspector or authorised officer prepares the written application under section 748(2); but
 - (b) may be made before the written application is sworn.
- (3) The magistrate may issue the warrant (the *original warrant*) only if the magistrate is satisfied—
- (a) it was necessary to make the application under subsection (1); and
 - (b) the way the application was made under subsection (1) was appropriate.
- (4) After the magistrate issues the original warrant—
- (a) if there is a reasonably practicable way of immediately giving a copy of the warrant to the inspector or authorised officer, for example, by sending a copy by fax or email, the magistrate must immediately give a copy of the warrant to the inspector or authorised officer; or
 - (b) otherwise—
 - (i) the magistrate must tell the inspector or authorised officer the date and time the warrant is issued and the other terms of the warrant; and
 - (ii) the inspector or authorised officer must complete a form of warrant, including by writing on it—
 - (A) the magistrate's name; and
 - (B) the date and time the magistrate issued the warrant; and
 - (C) the other terms of the warrant.
- (5) The copy of the warrant mentioned in subsection (4)(a), or the form of warrant completed under subsection (4)(b) (in either case the *duplicate warrant*), is a duplicate of, and as effectual as, the original warrant.
- (6) The inspector or authorised officer must, at the first reasonable opportunity, send the magistrate—
- (a) the written application complying with section 748(2) and (3); and

- (b) if the inspector or authorised officer completed a form of warrant under subsection (4)(b)—the completed form of warrant.
- (7) The magistrate must keep the original warrant and, on receiving the documents under subsection (6)—
 - (a) attach the documents to the original warrant; and
 - (b) give the original warrant and documents to the clerk of the court of the relevant magistrates court.
- (8) Despite subsection (5), if—
 - (a) an issue arises in a proceeding about whether an exercise of a power was authorised by a warrant issued under this section; and
 - (b) the original warrant is not produced in evidence;
the onus of proof is on the person relying on the lawfulness of the exercise of the power to prove a warrant authorised the exercise of the power.
- (9) This section does not limit section 748.
- (10) In this section—
relevant magistrates court, in relation to a magistrate, means the Magistrates Court that the magistrate constitutes under the *Magistrates Act 1991*.

751 Defect in relation to a warrant

- (1) A warrant is not invalidated by a defect in the warrant, or in compliance with section 748, 749 or 750, unless the defect affects the substance of the warrant in a material particular.
- (2) In this section—
warrant includes a duplicate warrant mentioned in section 750(5).

752 Warrants—procedure before entry

- (1) This section applies if an inspector or authorised officer named in a warrant issued under this division for a place is intending to enter the place under the warrant.

- (2) Before entering the place, the inspector or authorised officer must do or make a reasonable attempt to do the following things—
- (a) identify himself or herself to a person present at the place who is an occupier of the place, in the way stated in section 739;
 - (b) give the person a copy of the warrant;
 - (c) tell the person the inspector or authorised officer is permitted by the warrant to enter the place;
 - (d) give the person an opportunity to allow the inspector or authorised officer immediate entry to the place without using force.
- (3) However, the inspector or authorised officer need not comply with subsection (2) if the inspector or authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that immediate entry to the place is required to ensure the effective execution of the warrant is not frustrated.
- (4) In this section—
warrant includes a duplicate warrant mentioned in section 750(5).

Division 4 Powers after entering a place

753 Application of div 4

- (1) This division applies if an inspector or authorised officer has, under division 2, entered a place.
- (2) However, if, under section 743(2), an inspector or authorised officer enters a place to ask the occupier's consent to enter premises, this division applies to the inspector or authorised officer only if the consent is given or the entry is otherwise authorised.

754 General powers

The inspector or authorised officer may do all or any of the following—

- (a) search any part of the place;
- (b) inspect, measure, test, photograph or film any part of the place or anything at the place;
- (c) take a thing, or a sample of or from a thing, at the place for analysis or testing;
- (d) copy a document at the place;
- (e) take into or onto the place any person, equipment and materials the inspector or authorised officer reasonably requires for the exercise of a power under this division.

755 Power to require reasonable help

- (1) The inspector or authorised officer may require a person at the place or anywhere else, to give the inspector or authorised officer reasonable help, including, for example, by producing a document or giving information, to—
 - (a) exercise a power under this division; or
 - (b) work out whether this Act is being complied with.
- (2) When making the requirement, the inspector or authorised officer must warn the person it is an offence to fail to comply with the requirement unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

756 Failure to comply with help requirement

- (1) A person of whom a requirement under section 755 has been made must comply with the requirement unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) It is a reasonable excuse for an individual not to comply with the requirement if complying with the requirement might tend to incriminate the individual.
- (3) However, subsection (2) does not apply if the requirement is to produce a document required to be held or kept by the individual under this Act.

Division 5 Power to obtain information

757 Power to require name and address

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an inspector or authorised officer finds a person committing an offence against this Act; or
 - (b) an inspector or authorised officer finds a person in circumstances that lead, or has information that leads, the inspector or authorised officer to reasonably believe the person has just committed an offence against this Act.
- (2) The inspector or authorised officer may require the person to state the person's name and residential address.
- (3) When making the requirement, the inspector or authorised officer must warn the person it is an offence to fail to state the person's name or residential address unless the person has a reasonable excuse.
- (4) The inspector or authorised officer may require the person to give evidence of the correctness of the stated name or residential address if the inspector or authorised officer reasonably suspects the stated name or address to be false.

758 Power to require production of documents

- (1) An inspector or authorised officer may require a person to make available for inspection by an inspector or authorised officer, or produce to the inspector or authorised officer for inspection, at a reasonable time and place nominated by the inspector or authorised officer—
 - (a) a document given to the person under this Act; or
 - (b) a document required to be held, kept or made by the person under this Act.
- (2) The inspector or authorised officer may ask the person to give the inspector or authorised officer a copy of the document within a reasonable period.

- (3) If the inspector or authorised officer asks for and is given a copy of a document mentioned in subsection (1)(b), the inspector or officer may require the person responsible for keeping the document to certify the copy as a true copy of the document.
- (4) If a request under subsection (2) is not complied with within a reasonable period, the inspector or authorised officer may—
 - (a) take the document to copy it; and
 - (b) require the person responsible for keeping the document to certify the copy as a true copy of the document.
- (5) The inspector or authorised officer must return the document to the person as soon as practicable after copying it.
- (6) However, if a requirement is made of a person under subsection (3) or (4), the inspector or authorised officer may keep the document until the person complies with the requirement.

759 Failure to produce document

- (1) A person of whom a requirement under section 758(2) has been made must comply with the requirement unless the person has a reasonable excuse.
Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.
- (2) It is a reasonable excuse for an individual not to comply with a document production requirement if complying with the requirement might tend to incriminate the individual.
- (3) However, subsection (2) does not apply if the requirement is to produce a document required to be held or kept by the person under this Act.

760 Failure to certify copy of document

A person of whom a requirement under section 758(3) or (4) has been made must comply with the requirement unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

761 Power to require information

- (1) This section applies if an inspector or authorised officer reasonably believes—
 - (a) an offence against this Act has been committed; and
 - (b) a person may be able to give information about the offence.
- (2) The inspector or authorised officer may, by a notice given to the person, require the person to give information about the offence to the inspector or authorised officer at a stated reasonable place and at a stated reasonable time.

762 Failure to comply with information requirement

- (1) A person to whom a notice under section 761 has been given must comply with the notice unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.
- (2) It is a reasonable excuse for an individual to fail to give information if giving the information might tend to incriminate the individual.

Division 6 Seizure and forfeiture**Subdivision 1 Seizure powers****763 Power to seize things**

- (1) An inspector or authorised officer who, under this part, enters a place may seize a thing at the place if—
 - (a) the inspector or authorised officer reasonably believes the thing—
 - (i) is, or may be, evidence of an offence against this Act; or
 - (ii) may be required to investigate an incident; and

- (b) for an entry made with the occupier's consent—seizure of the thing is consistent with the purpose of entry as told to the occupier.
- (2) An inspector or authorised officer who enters a place under a warrant may seize the evidence for which the warrant was issued.
- (3) An inspector or authorised officer may also seize anything else at a place mentioned in subsection (1) or (2) if the inspector or officer reasonably believes—
 - (a) the thing is, or may be, evidence of an offence against this Act; or
 - (b) the seizure is necessary to prevent the thing being destroyed, hidden or lost or used to continue or repeat the offence; or
 - (c) the thing has just been used in committing an offence against this Act.

764 Seizure of thing subject to security

- (1) An inspector or authorised officer may, under this Act, seize a thing or exercise powers in relation to it despite a lien or other security over it claimed by another person.
- (2) However, the seizure does not affect the person's claim to the lien or other security against a person other than the inspector or authorised officer or a person acting for the inspector or authorised officer.

Subdivision 2 Powers to support seizure

765 Directions to person in control

- (1) To enable a thing to be seized under this part, an inspector or authorised officer may require the person in control of it—
 - (a) to take it to a stated reasonable place by a stated reasonable time; and
 - (b) if necessary, to remain in control of it at the stated place for a stated reasonable period.

- (2) The requirement—
- (a) must be made by notice; or
 - (b) if for any reason it is not practicable to give the notice, may be made orally and confirmed by a notice in the approved form as soon as practicable.

766 Failure to comply with seizure requirement

A person of whom a requirement under section 765 has been made must comply with the requirement unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

767 General powers for seized things

Having seized a thing under this part, an inspector or authorised officer may do 1 or more of the following—

- (a) move it from the place where it was seized;
- (b) leave it at the place but take reasonable action to restrict access to it;

Examples of restricting access to a thing—

- 1 brand, mark, seal, tag or otherwise identify it to show access to it is restricted
 - 2 sealing the entrance to a room where the thing is situated and marking it to show access to it is restricted
- (c) for equipment—make it inoperable.

Example of making equipment inoperable—

dismantling equipment or removing a component of equipment without which the equipment is not capable of being used

768 Offence to unlawfully interfere with seized thing

- (1) A person, other than an inspector or authorised officer, must not do, or attempt to do, any of the following acts in relation to a thing seized under this part unless the person has a reasonable excuse—

- (a) unlawfully interfere with the thing or something done under section 767(b) to restrict access to it;
- (b) enter, or be at, the place where the thing is being kept;
- (c) move the thing from the place where it is being kept.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) It is a reasonable excuse if the act is authorised by an inspector or authorised officer.

769 Testing seized things

- (1) An inspector may carry out, or arrange to have carried out, scientific or other tests on a thing seized under this Act to investigate an incident.
- (2) The testing may have the effect of destroying the thing if—
 - (a) the thing is a sample of petroleum or fuel gas or a part of a GHG stream; or
 - (b) for another thing—
 - (i) its destruction is necessary for the carrying out of the test; and
 - (ii) there is no other reasonable course available to achieve the purpose of the test; and
 - (iii) subsections (3) to (6) are complied with.
- (3) For subsection (2)(b)(iii), the chief inspector must give any owner of the thing of whom the chief inspector is aware a notice of the proposed test before it is carried out.
- (4) The notice must state—
 - (a) a reasonable period for the owner to lodge submissions as to why the thing should be preserved; and
 - (b) where the submissions may be lodged.
- (5) The notice must provide for the submissions to be lodged at—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief inspector.

- (6) Before destroying the thing the chief inspector must consider any submissions lodged by the owner during the stated period.

Subdivision 3 Safeguards for seized property

770 Receipt and information notice for seized things

- (1) As soon as possible after an inspector or authorised officer seizes a thing, the inspector or authorised officer must give the person from whom it was seized—
- (a) a receipt for the thing that generally describes the thing and its condition; and
 - (b) an information notice about the decision to make the seizure.
- (2) However, if for any reason it is not practicable to comply with subsection (1), the inspector or authorised officer must leave the receipt at the place where it was seized, in a reasonably secure way and in a conspicuous position.
- (3) The information notice and receipt may—
- (a) be given in the same document; and
 - (b) relate to more than 1 seized thing.
- (4) This section does not apply to a thing if it is impractical or would be unreasonable to give the receipt, given the thing's nature, condition and value.

771 Access to seized things

- (1) Until a thing seized under this Act is forfeited or returned, an inspector or authorised officer must allow its owner to inspect it and, if it is a document, to copy it.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if it is impracticable or would be unreasonable to allow the inspection or copying.

772 Return of seized things

- (1) If a thing seized under this Act has not been forfeited, an inspector or authorised officer must return the thing to its owner—
 - (a) at the end of 6 months; or
 - (b) if a proceeding for an offence involving the thing is started within the 6 months—at the end of the proceeding and any appeal from it; or
 - (c) if, within the 6 months, the inspector or authorised officer fixes a later period for its return—at the end of the later period.
- (2) The inspector or authorised officer may fix a later period only if the inspector or authorised officer reasonably believes—
 - (a) a proceeding for an offence involving the thing is likely to be commenced; and
 - (b) retention of the thing for the period is necessary for evidence.
- (3) If the inspector or authorised officer fixes a later period, the inspector or authorised officer must, as soon as practicable after making the decision, give the owner of the thing an information notice about the decision to fix the period.
- (4) Despite subsection (1), the inspector or authorised officer must return the thing to the person immediately the inspector or authorised officer stops being satisfied its retention as evidence is necessary.

Subdivision 4 Forfeiture**773 Forfeiture of seized things**

- (1) The chief executive or the chief inspector may decide to forfeit a thing seized under this Act if the inspector or authorised officer (the *seizing officer*) who seized the thing—
 - (a) can not find its owner, after making reasonable inquiries; or

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- (b) can not return it to its owner, after making reasonable efforts; or
 - (c) reasonably believes it is necessary to retain the thing to prevent it being used to commit an offence against this Act; or
 - (d) reasonably considers it is dangerous to the extent that, to ensure safety, it must be destroyed; or
 - (e) reasonably considers it has no intrinsic value and use.
- (2) For subsection (1)—
- (a) the period over which the efforts or enquires are made must be at least 5 business days; and
 - (b) the seizing officer is not required to—
 - (i) make efforts if it would be unreasonable to make efforts to return the thing to its owner; or
 - (ii) make inquiries if it would be unreasonable to make inquiries to find the owner.
- (3) If the chief executive or chief inspector decides under subsection (1)(c), (d) or (e) to forfeit a thing, the former owner of the thing immediately before the forfeiture must be given an information notice about the decision.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply if—
- (a) the seizing officer can not find the owner, after making reasonable inquiries; or
 - (b) it is impracticable or would be unreasonable to give the information notice.
- (5) Regard must be had to a thing's nature, condition and value—
- (a) in deciding—
 - (i) whether it is reasonable to make inquiries or efforts; and
 - (ii) if making inquiries or efforts, what inquiries or efforts, including the period over which they are made, are reasonable; or
 - (b) in deciding whether it would be unreasonable to give the information notice.

774 Dealing with forfeited things

- (1) On the forfeiture of a thing to the State, it becomes the State's property.²⁴⁹
- (2) The chief executive or chief inspector may deal with the thing for the State in any way the chief executive or chief inspector considers appropriate, including, for example by destroying it or giving it away.
- (3) However, the chief executive or chief inspector must not deal with the thing in a way that could prejudice the outcome of an appeal or review under this Act of which the chief executive or chief inspector is aware.

Division 7 Notice of damage caused when exercising power**775 Application of div 7**

- (1) This division applies if—
 - (a) an inspector or authorised officer damages something when exercising, or purporting to exercise, a power; or
 - (b) a person helping an inspector or authorised officer to exercise, or purporting to exercise, the inspector's or authorised officer's powers damages something.
- (2) However, this division does not apply to damage the inspector or authorised officer reasonably considers is trivial or if the inspector or officer reasonably believes—
 - (a) there is no-one apparently in possession of the thing; or
 - (b) the thing has been abandoned.

776 Requirement to give notice

- (1) The inspector or authorised officer must immediately give a notice of the damage to the person who appears to the

249 See also section 841 (Additional orders that may be made on conviction).

inspector or officer to be the owner or person in possession or control of the thing.

- (2) However, if for any reason it is not practicable to comply with subsection (1), the inspector or officer must—
 - (a) leave the notice at the place where the damage happened; and
 - (b) ensure it is left in a conspicuous position and in a reasonably secure way.
- (3) The inspector or officer may delay complying with subsection (1) or (2) if the inspector or officer reasonably suspects complying with the subsection may frustrate or otherwise hinder an investigation by the inspector or officer.
- (4) The delay may be only for so long as the inspector or officer continues to have the reasonable suspicion and remains in the vicinity of the place.

777 Content of notice

- (1) A notice of damage under section 776 must state particulars of the damage.
- (2) If the inspector or authorised officer believes the damage was caused by a latent defect in the thing or circumstances beyond the control of the inspector or officer or a person helping the inspector or officer, the notice may state that belief.

Division 8 Miscellaneous provisions

778 Compensation for damage because of exercise of powers

- (1) A person may claim compensation from the State if the person incurs a cost, damage or loss because of the exercise, or purported exercise, of a power under this part by or for an inspector or authorised officer.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), compensation may be claimed for a cost, damage or loss incurred because of the compliance with a requirement made of the person under this part.

- (3) The compensation may be claimed and ordered in a proceeding—
 - (a) brought in a court of competent jurisdiction; or
 - (b) for an offence against this Act to which the claim relates.
- (4) A court may order the payment of compensation only if it is satisfied it is just to make the order in the circumstances of the particular case.
- (5) In considering whether it is just to order compensation, the court must have regard to any relevant offence committed by the claimant.
- (6) A regulation may prescribe other matters that may, or must, be taken into account by the court when considering whether it is just to order compensation.

779 Compliance with safety management plan

- (1) An inspector or authorised officer who exercises a power under this part in relation to an operating plant must comply with each relevant safety requirement under the safety management plan for the plant.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the power is exercised with the chief inspector's written approval.
- (3) A failure to comply with this subsection (1) does not invalidate or otherwise affect the exercise of the power.

Part 2 Directions and enforcement

Division 1 Direction to remedy contravention

780 Power to give compliance direction

- (1) This section applies if an inspector or authorised officer reasonably believes a person—

- (a) has contravened, or is contravening, any of the following (an ***enforced instrument***)—
 - (i) this Act;
 - (ii) the GHG storage Act;
 - (iii) a mandatory provision of the land access code; or
 - (b) is involved in an activity that is likely to result in a contravention of an enforced instrument.
- (2) The inspector or authorised officer may give the person a written direction (a ***compliance direction***) to take steps reasonably necessary to remedy the contravention or avoid the likely contravention.
- (3) The direction may also state—
- (a) the steps the inspector or authorised officer reasonably believes are necessary to remedy the contravention or avoid the likely contravention; or
 - (b) that the person must notify the inspector or authorised officer when the person has complied with the compliance direction; or
 - (c) that an inspector or authorised officer proposes, at a stated time or at stated intervals, to enter premises of which the person is the occupier to check compliance with the direction.

781 Requirements for giving compliance direction

- (1) A compliance direction must state each of the following—
- (a) that the inspector or authorised officer giving it believes the person given the direction—
 - (i) has contravened, or is contravening, this Act, the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004* or the GHG storage Act; or
 - (ii) is involved in an activity that is likely to result in a contravention of this Act, the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004* or the GHG storage Act;
 - (b) the provision the inspector or authorised officer believes is being, has been, or is likely to be, contravened;

- (c) the reasons for the belief;
 - (d) that the person must take steps reasonably necessary to remedy the contravention, or avoid the likely contravention, within a stated reasonable period.
- (2) The direction must include, or be accompanied by, an information notice about the decisions to give the direction and to fix the period.
 - (3) The direction may be given orally if—
 - (a) for any reason it is not practicable to give the direction in writing; and
 - (b) the inspector or authorised officer giving it warns the person it is an offence not to comply with the direction.
 - (4) If the direction is given orally, the inspector or authorised officer must confirm the direction by also giving it in writing as soon as practicable after giving it orally.

782 Failure to comply with compliance direction

- (1) A person to whom a compliance direction has been given must comply with the direction unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) If the direction states steps the person may take to remedy the contravention, or avoid the likely contravention, the subject of the direction, the person is taken to have complied with the direction if all the steps have been taken.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not prevent the person from complying with the direction in another way.

Division 2 Direction to remedy dangerous situation

783 Power to give dangerous situation direction

- (1) This section applies if an inspector reasonably believes—
 - (a) a dangerous situation exists; and

- (b) a person is in a position to take steps to prevent, remove or minimise the risk.
- (2) The inspector may give the person a written direction (a *dangerous situation direction*) to take steps reasonably necessary to prevent, remove or minimise the risk within a stated reasonable period.
- (3) The direction may also state—
 - (a) the steps the inspector reasonably believes are necessary to prevent, remove or minimise the risk; or
 - (b) that the person must notify the inspector or authorised officer when the person has complied with the dangerous situation direction; or
 - (c) that an inspector or an authorised officer proposes, at a stated time or at stated intervals, to enter premises of which the person is the occupier to check compliance with the direction.

784 Requirements for giving dangerous situation direction

- (1) A dangerous situation direction must state—
 - (a) that the inspector giving the direction believes—
 - (i) a stated dangerous situation exists; and
 - (ii) the person given the direction is in a position to take steps to prevent, remove or minimise the risk; and
 - (b) the reasons for the belief; and
 - (c) that the person must take steps reasonably necessary to prevent, remove or minimise the risk within a stated reasonable period.
- (2) The direction must include, or be accompanied by, an information notice about the decisions to give the direction and to fix the period.
- (3) The direction may be given orally if—
 - (a) for any reason it is not practicable to give the direction in writing; and

- (b) the inspector warns the person it is an offence not to comply with the direction.
- (4) If a dangerous situation direction is given orally, the inspector who gave it must confirm the direction by also giving it in writing as soon as practicable after giving it orally.

785 Failure to comply with dangerous situation direction

A person to whom a dangerous situation direction has been given must comply with the direction.

Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.

Division 3 Enforcement of directions

786 Re-inspection or re-attendance to check compliance

- (1) If a compliance or dangerous situation direction has been given, an inspector or authorised officer may, if the inspector or officer considers it reasonably necessary, carry out a re-inspection or re-attendance to check compliance with the direction.
- (2) The re-inspection or re-attendance must be carried out at a reasonable time.

787 Action to ensure compliance

If a person to whom a compliance or dangerous situation direction has been given does not comply with the direction, an inspector or authorised officer may take necessary and reasonable action to ensure the direction is complied with.

788 Recovery of enforcement costs

- (1) The State may recover from the responsible person as a debt any reasonable costs incurred in—
 - (a) carrying out a re-attendance under section 786; or
 - (b) taking action under section 787.
- (2) In this section—

responsible person means the person to whom the relevant direction was given.

Division 4 Noncompliance procedure for all authorities under Act

Subdivision 1 Introduction

789 Operation of div 4

- (1) This division provides a process for noncompliance action against the holder of any authority under this Act mentioned in section 18.
- (2) The *relevant official* for taking the action is—
 - (a) for a petroleum authority—the Minister; or
 - (b) for a gas work licence or authorisation—the chief inspector.
- (3) The power to take noncompliance action under this division does not limit a power as follows (the *other power*)—
 - (a) the power under chapter 5, part 1 to require new or additional security;
 - (b) a power under another provision of this Act to amend the authority;
 - (c) the power to give a dangerous situation or compliance direction.
- (4) The other power does not limit the power to take noncompliance action.
- (5) Noncompliance action may be taken at the same time as the other power is exercised.

Subdivision 2 Noncompliance action

790 Types of noncompliance action that may be taken

- (1) The noncompliance action the relevant official may take under this division is all or any of the following—
 - (a) amending the authority by doing all or any of the following—
 - (i) reducing the term of the authority;
 - (ii) for a petroleum authority—reducing its area;
Example of a possible reduction—

An authority to prospect holder has not, in contravention of section 78, carried out work required under the work program for the authority. Noncompliance action may include amending the authority to reduce its area to reflect the work not carried out.
 - (iii) amending a condition of the authority;
 - (iv) imposing a new condition;
 - (b) requiring the authority holder to relinquish a stated part of the area of the authority on or before a stated time;
 - (c) cancelling the authority, immediately or on a stated day;
 - (d) if the authority is a gas work licence or authorisation—suspending it for a period, either under subdivision 3 or by a notice under subdivision 4;
 - (e) if the authority is a petroleum tenure—
 - (i) withdrawing, from a stated day,²⁵⁰ the approval of its work program or development plan; and
 - (ii) directing its holder to, on or before that day, lodge the following program or plan at the relevant office so that the Minister may decide whether to approve the program or plan—

²⁵⁰ See section 796 (Notice of proposed noncompliance action other than immediate suspension).

- (A) for an authority to prospect—a proposed later work program that complies with the later work program requirements;
 - (B) for a petroleum lease—a proposed later development plan that complies with the later development plan requirements;
- (f) requiring the authority holder to pay the State a penalty of an amount no more than the monetary value of 2000 penalty units.
- (2) However, a requirement under subsection (1)(f)—
 - (a) may not be made if the event for which the noncompliance action is taken is an event mentioned in section 791(2)(g); and
 - (b) may be made only if the holder has agreed to the requirement being made instead of the taking of other noncompliance action under subsection (1).
- (3) A condition or amendment under subsection (1) may restrict the authorised activities for the authority.
- (4) If, under subsection (1)(c), the authority is cancelled on a stated day, a condition may be imposed under subsection (1)(a) restricting the authorised activities for the authority until the cancellation.
- (5) Noncompliance action may be taken despite the mandatory conditions for the authority.
- (6) The power under subsection (1) to amend a gas work licence or authorisation may be exercised even if it is suspended.
- (7) In this section—

relevant office means—

 - (a) the office of the department for lodging proposed later work programs or proposed later development plans, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

791 When noncompliance action may be taken

- (1) Noncompliance action may be taken if—
 - (a) an event mentioned in subsection (2) or (3) has happened; and
 - (b) the procedure under subdivision 3 or 4 for taking the action has been followed; and
 - (c) the petroleum authority for which the noncompliance action is taken relates to the event for which the action is taken.
- (2) For subsection (1), the event is that the holder—
 - (a) obtained the authority because of a materially false or misleading representation or declaration, made orally or in writing; or
 - (b) has failed to comply with this Act, a direction given under this Act or the authority; or
 - (c) did not pay an amount under this Act by the day it became owing; or
 - (d) has used any land in the area of the authority for an activity that—
 - (i) is not an authorised activity for the authority or that, under the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004*, section 7 or the Mineral Resources Act, section 3A, can not be carried out on the land; and
 - (ii) the holder can not otherwise lawfully carry out; or
 - (e) has used the authority for a purpose other than for a purpose for which it was granted; or
 - (f) has carried out, or purported to carry out, work under the authority for which the authority was not granted; or
 - (g) is the subject of a notice given to the Minister by the chief executive of the department administering the Water Act, stating that the holder has been convicted of an offence against the Water Act, chapter 3.
- (3) Also, if the authority is a petroleum authority, it is an event for subsection (1) if the holder is not, or has ceased to be, an eligible person.

792 Provision for divided petroleum tenures

- (1) If, under chapter 2, a petroleum tenure (the *original tenure*) is divided into other petroleum tenures (the *new tenures*), any noncompliance action started, or that could have been taken, against the original tenure holder may be continued or started against any holder of any of the new tenures.
- (2) However, the procedure under subdivision 4 for taking the noncompliance action must be followed.

Subdivision 3 Procedure for immediate suspension of gas work licence or authorisation**793 Application of sdiv 3**

This subdivision applies only if the authority is a gas work licence or authorisation.

794 Immediate suspension

- (1) The chief inspector may, by a notice (a *suspension notice*) to the holder, immediately suspend the authority if the chief inspector reasonably believes—
 - (a) a ground exists to suspend or cancel the authority; and
 - (b) it is imperative to immediately suspend the authority to control or prevent a danger to the public.
- (2) The suspension notice must—
 - (a) state each of the following—
 - (i) that the authority is suspended immediately;
 - (ii) the grounds for the suspension;
 - (iii) the facts and circumstances forming the basis for the grounds;
 - (iv) the suspension period;
 - (v) that the holder may lodge submissions, to show why the suspension should end, at—

- (A) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief inspector; or
 - (B) if no office is gazetted under subsubparagraph (A)—the office of the chief inspector; and
- (b) include, or be accompanied by, a notice about the decisions to give the notice and to fix the suspension period.
- (3) The suspension period ends—
 - (a) if the chief inspector takes a noncompliance action in relation to the authority under section 798—when the noncompliance action is finally disposed of; or
 - (b) otherwise—within the period stated in the suspension notice that is not more than 40 business days.
- (4) The suspension has effect immediately after the holder is given the suspension notice.
- (5) The authority is ineffective during the suspension period.

Subdivision 4 Procedure for other noncompliance action

795 Application of sdiv 4

This subdivision applies if the relevant official proposes to take noncompliance action, other than immediate suspension under section 794.

796 Notice of proposed noncompliance action other than immediate suspension

- (1) The relevant official must give the authority holder a notice stating each of the following—
 - (a) that the relevant official proposes to take noncompliance action against the holder;

- (b) the types of noncompliance action that may be taken against the holder and the type likely to be taken;
 - (c) the grounds for taking noncompliance action against the holder;
 - (d) the facts and circumstances that are the basis for the grounds;
 - (e) that the holder may, within a stated period, lodge submissions about the proposal to take noncompliance action at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the relevant official; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the relevant official.
- (2) The notice may state any of the following—
- (a) if the noncompliance action is likely to include amending the authority—the likely amendment;
 - (b) if the authority is a petroleum authority—the amount of any likely reduction of the area of the authority;
 - (c) if the proposed noncompliance action is to suspend the authority—the likely suspension period.
- (3) A suspension period may be fixed by reference to a stated event.
- (4) The stated period must be at least 20 business days after the holder is given the notice.

797 Considering submissions

- (1) The relevant official must consider any submissions lodged by the holder, during the period stated in the notice given under section 796.
- (2) If the relevant official decides not to take noncompliance action the relevant official must promptly give the holder a notice of the decision.

798 Decision on proposed noncompliance action

- (1) If, after complying with section 797, the relevant official still believes a ground exists to take noncompliance action, the official may decide to take noncompliance action in relation to the authority that relates to a ground stated in the notice given under section 796.
- (2) The relevant official must, in deciding whether to take the action, have regard to whether the holder is a suitable person to hold, or continue to hold, the authority.
- (3) In considering whether the holder is a suitable person to hold, or to continue to hold, the authority the relevant official must consider any criteria that apply in deciding whether to grant an authority of the same type.

799 Notice and taking effect of decision

- (1) If the relevant official makes a decision under section 798, the person must after making the decision give an information notice about the decision to—
 - (a) the holder; and
 - (b) for a petroleum authority—any other person who holds an interest in the authority recorded in the petroleum register.
- (2) Generally, the decision takes effect on the later of the following—
 - (a) the day the holder is given the information notice;
 - (b) a later day of effect stated in the notice.
- (3) However, if the decision was to cancel or suspend the authority, the decision does not take effect until the end of the appeal period for the decision.²⁵¹

²⁵¹ See section 824 (Period to appeal).

See also section 826 (Stay of operation of decision).

799A Consequence of failure to comply with relinquishment requirement

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) noncompliance action taken is a requirement, under section 790(1)(b), of a petroleum authority holder; and
 - (b) the requirement is not complied with.
- (2) The holder must be given a notice requiring the holder to comply with the requirement under section 790(1)(b) within 20 business days after the giving of the notice.
- (3) If the holder does not comply with the requirement under the notice, the authority is cancelled.
- (4) However, the cancellation does not take effect until the holder is given a notice stating that the authority has been cancelled because of the operation of subsection (3).

Chapter 11 General offences

Part 1 Restrictions relating to petroleum activities

800 Restriction on petroleum tenure activities

- (1) A person must not carry out a petroleum tenure activity in relation to land unless—
 - (a) the activity is carried out under this Act or the 1923 Act and under the authority of a petroleum tenure or a 1923 Act petroleum tenure; or
 - (b) the carrying out of the activity is necessary to preserve life or property because of a dangerous situation or emergency that exists or may exist.

Maximum penalty—2000 penalty units.

- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply if—

- (a) the activity is the exploration for coal seam gas under a coal or oil shale mining tenement; or
 - (b) the land is also in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease and the activity is coal seam gas mining;²⁵² or
 - (c) the activity is an activity mentioned in section 32(2) or 109(2) carried out under a coal or oil shale mining lease.²⁵³
- (3) In this section—
- petroleum tenure activity* means to—
- (a) explore for or produce petroleum; or
 - (b) test, develop or use a natural underground reservoir for storage of petroleum or a prescribed storage gas; or
 - (c) carry out an activity necessary for, or incidental to, an activity mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b).

801 Petroleum producer's measurement obligations

- (1) A petroleum producer must ensure—
- (a) each product mentioned in subsection (2) is measured by a meter, in accordance with the relevant measurement scheme for the meter;²⁵⁴ and
 - (b) the meter complies with any requirements prescribed under a regulation; and
 - (c) the measurement is made at the times and in the way prescribed under a regulation.

252 See the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CN (Use that may be made under mining lease of incidental coal seam gas).

253 Section 32 (Exploration and testing) or 109 (Exploration, production and storage activities)

See however the *Gas Supply Act 2003*, section 257AA (Exemption from Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, ss 800, 802 and 803 for person complying with direction).

254 For what is a meter, see section 631 (What is a *meter*). For measurement schemes, see chapter 8, part 2 (Measurement schemes).

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) For subsection (1)(a), the products are each of the following—
- (a) petroleum the producer produces;
 - (b) any of the petroleum that is used in the production of petroleum from the petroleum tenure, 1923 Act petroleum tenure or mining tenement on which the petroleum was produced or processed;
 - (c) any of the petroleum produced that is flared or vented by or for the producer;
 - (d) any of the petroleum produced that the producer, or someone else for the producer, injects into a natural underground reservoir in the State;
 - (e) any of the petroleum produced the property in which passes from the producer;
 - (f) for a petroleum tenure holder—associated water for the tenure;
 - (g) any of the petroleum produced that passes through another stage in its production or processing that the Minister gives a notice to the producer is a stage at which the petroleum must be measured.
- (2A) However, subsection (1)(a) does not apply to an amount of petroleum that is—
- (a) unavoidably lost before it can be measured; or
 - (b) lost or used as part of normal operations for instrumentation, purging, blowdown or similar activities.
- (3) For applying subsections (1) and (2)(f), water is taken to be petroleum.
- (4) If there is any inconsistency between the measurement scheme and a regulation made under subsection (1), the regulation prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

802 Restriction on pipeline construction or operation

- (1) A person must not construct or operate a pipeline, other than a distribution pipeline, unless—

- (a) the construction or operation is—
 - (i) carried out under this Act, the 1923 Act or the GHG storage Act and under the authority of a petroleum tenure, a 1923 Act petroleum tenure or a GHG tenure; or
 - (ii) necessary to preserve life or property because of a dangerous situation or emergency that exists or may exist; or
- (b) the pipeline is completely within a parcel of land, or contiguous parcels of land, owned by the person; or
- (c) the operation of the pipeline consists of—
 - (i) the transportation, within the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease, of coal seam gas mined in the area of the mining lease, under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CM; or
 - (ii) the transportation, within the area of a mining lease, of a gasification or retorting product produced under the lease.

Maximum penalty—2000 penalty units.

- (2) In this section—

produced includes extracted, mined or released.

803 Restriction on petroleum facility construction or operation

A person must not construct or operate a petroleum facility unless the construction or operation is—

- (a) carried out under this Act and under the authority of a petroleum authority; or

- (b) necessary to preserve life or property because of a dangerous situation or emergency that exists or may exist.²⁵⁵

Maximum penalty—2000 penalty units.

804 Duty to avoid interference in carrying out authorised activities

A person who carries out an authorised activity for a petroleum authority must carry out the activity in a way that does not unreasonably interfere with anyone else carrying out a lawful activity.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

Part 2 Interference with authorised activities

805 Obstruction of petroleum authority holder

- (1) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, obstruct a petroleum authority holder from—
- (a) entering or crossing land to carry out an authorised activity for the petroleum authority if chapter 5, part 2 or 3, to the extent the part is relevant, has been complied with in relation to the entry; or
 - (b) carrying out an authorised activity for the petroleum authority on the land.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) If a person has obstructed a petroleum authority holder from carrying out an activity mentioned in subsection (1) and the holder decides to proceed with the carrying out of the activity, the holder must warn the person that—

²⁵⁵ See however section 876 (Conversion on 2004 Act start day) and the *Gas Supply Act 2003*, section 257AA (Exemption from Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, ss 800, 802 and 803 for person complying with direction).

- (a) it is an offence to obstruct the holder unless the person has a reasonable excuse; and
 - (b) the holder considers the person's conduct is an obstruction.
- (3) In this section—
obstruct includes assault, hinder, resist and attempt or threaten to assault, hinder, resist.

806 Interfering with water observation bore

- (1) A person must not interfere with a water observation bore unless the person is the owner of the bore or the owner of the bore consents.²⁵⁶
Maximum penalty—1000 penalty units.
- (2) In this section—
owner, of the bore, means the person who, under section 542, owns the works constructed in connection with the bore.

807 Restriction on building on pipeline land

- (1) This section applies if land is pipeline land for 1 or more pipeline licences.
- (2) A person, other than a holder of any of the licences, must not construct or place a structure on the land unless all the pipeline licence holders consent.
Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

808 Restriction on changing surface of pipeline land for a pipeline licence

- A person must not change the surface of pipeline land for a pipeline licence in a way that changes, or may cause a change to, the depth of burial of a pipeline unless—
- (a) the pipeline licence holder consents; or

²⁵⁶ For ownership of water observation bores, see section 542 (Ownership of equipment and improvements).

- (b) the change is necessary to preserve life or property because of a dangerous situation or emergency that exists or may exist; or
- (c) the change is a change to a public road by or for its public road authority and the authority has complied with section 427 in relation to the change; or
- (d) the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

809 Unlawful taking of petroleum or fuel gas prohibited

A person must not unlawfully take petroleum or fuel gas from—

- (a) a pipeline the subject of a pipeline licence; or
- (b) a petroleum pipeline, as defined under section 110, operated under that section by a petroleum lease holder; or
- (c) a gas fitting as defined under section 733.

Maximum penalty—1500 penalty units.

810 Restriction on building on petroleum facility land

A person must not construct or place a structure on petroleum facility land for a petroleum facility licence unless the petroleum facility licence holder consents.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

Part 3 Other offences

811 Obstruction of inspector or authorised officer

- (1) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, obstruct an inspector or authorised officer exercising a power under this Act.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) If the inspector or authorised officer considers a person has obstructed the inspector or authorised officer and the inspector or authorised officer decides to proceed with the exercise of the power, the inspector or authorised officer must warn the person that—
 - (a) it is an offence to obstruct the inspector or authorised officer unless the person has a reasonable excuse; and
 - (b) the inspector or authorised officer considers the person's conduct is an obstruction.
- (3) In this section—

obstruct includes assault, hinder, resist and attempt or threaten to assault, hinder, resist.

812 Pretending to be inspector or authorised officer

A person must not pretend to be an inspector or authorised officer.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

813 False or misleading information

- (1) A person must not make an entry in a document required to be kept under this Act knowing the entry is false or misleading in a material particular.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) A person of whom a direction or requirement under this Act has been made must not state anything or give a document or thing in response to the direction or requirement that the person knows is false or misleading in a material particular.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

814 Executive officers must ensure corporation complies with Act

- (1) The executive officers of a corporation must ensure the corporation complies with this Act.

- (2) If a corporation commits an offence against a provision of this Act, each of its executive officers also commits an offence, namely, the offence of failing to ensure the corporation complies with the provision.

Maximum penalty—the penalty for the contravention of the provision by an individual.

- (3) Evidence that the corporation has been convicted of an offence against a provision of this Act is evidence that each of its executive officers committed the offence of failing to ensure the corporation complies with the provision.
- (4) However, it is a defence for an executive officer to prove that—
- (a) if the officer was in a position to influence the conduct of the corporation in relation to the offence—the officer exercised reasonable diligence to ensure the corporation complied with the provision; or
 - (b) the officer was not in a position to influence the conduct of the corporation in relation to the offence.

815 Fuel gas suppliers must not use other supplier's containers

- (1) This section applies to a container with a water capacity of more than 25kg that is the property of a fuel gas supplier (the *owner*).
- (2) Another fuel gas supplier must not supply LPG in the container without the owner's permission.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

816 Attempts to commit offences

- (1) A person who attempts to commit an offence against this Act commits an offence.

Maximum penalty for an attempt—half the maximum penalty for the completed offence.

- (2) The Criminal Code, section 4 applies to subsection (1).

Chapter 12 Reviews and appeals

Part 1 Review of decisions

817 Who may apply for internal review

- (1) A person who has been given, or is entitled to be given, an information notice about a decision under this Act mentioned in schedule 1, table 1 (an *original decision*) may apply for an internal review of the decision (an *internal review application*).
- (2) An internal review application may be made only to—
 - (a) if the original decision to which the application relates was made by the chief executive—the Minister; or
 - (b) if the original decision to which the application relates was made by an inspector—the chief inspector; or
 - (c) otherwise—the chief executive.²⁵⁷
- (3) The person to whom the internal review application may be made is the *reviewer*.

818 Requirements for making application

An internal review application—

- (a) can only be made within 20 business days after—
 - (i) if the person has been given an information notice about the original decision to which the application relates—the day the person is given the notice; or
 - (ii) if subparagraph (i) does not apply—the day the person otherwise becomes aware of the original decision; and
- (b) must be—
 - (i) in the approved form; and

²⁵⁷ For restrictions on who may conduct the review, see section 821(1) (Internal review procedure).

- (ii) accompanied by a statement of the grounds on which the applicant seeks the review of the decision; and
- (iii) supported by enough information to enable the decision to be reviewed; and
- (c) must be lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging internal review applications, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
 - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive.

819 Stay of operation of original decision

- (1) The reviewer may grant a stay of the original decision to secure the effectiveness of the internal review.
- (2) A stay—
 - (a) may be given on the conditions the reviewer considers appropriate; and
 - (b) operates for the period fixed by the reviewer; and
 - (c) may be amended or cancelled by the reviewer.
- (3) The period of a stay under this section must not extend past the time when the reviewer decides the internal review.
- (4) The internal review affects the decision, or carrying out of the decision, only if it is stayed.

820 Internal review decision

- (1) The reviewer must, within 20 business days after the internal review application is made (the *required period*)—
 - (a) review the original decision; and
 - (b) make a decision (the *internal review decision*) to—
 - (i) confirm the original decision; or
 - (ii) amend the original decision; or

- (iii) substitute another decision for the original decision.
- (2) If the reviewer does not make the internal review decision within the required period, the reviewer is taken to have made that decision and to have decided to confirm the original decision.
- (3) If the internal review decision confirms the original decision, for the purpose of an external review, the original decision is taken to be the internal review decision.
- (4) If the internal review decision amends the original decision, for the purpose of an external review, the original decision as amended is taken to be the internal review decision.

821 Internal review procedure

- (1) Despite any other provision of this Act or the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*, section 27A, the reviewer's powers to review the original can not be delegated to—
 - (a) a person who made the original decision under a delegation; or
 - (b) if this Act required the decision to be made by a person with particular qualifications or competencies—a person without at least the same or equivalent qualifications or competencies.
- (2) The reviewer may, in making the internal review decision, seek and take into account advice or information from anyone, including, for example, a review panel established by the reviewer.

822 Notice of internal review decision

- (1) The reviewer must, within 5 business days after making an internal review decision, give the applicant notice (a *review notice*) of the decision.
- (2) If the internal review decision is not the decision sought by the applicant, the review notice must—

- (a) if the person has been given an information notice for the decision—the day the person is given the notice; or
 - (b) if paragraph (a) does not apply—the day the person otherwise becomes aware of the decision.
- (2) However, the appeal body may, at any time within the 20 business days, extend the period for making an appeal.

825 Starting appeal

- (1) The appeal is started by filing a written notice of appeal with the appeal body.
- (2) A copy of the notice must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging notices of appeal, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) An appeal to the District Court or industrial court may be made to the District Court or industrial court nearest the place where the applicant resides or carries on business.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not limit the court at which the appeal may be started under the *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 1999* or the *Industrial Relations Act 1999*.

826 Stay of operation of decision

- (1) The appeal body may grant a stay of the decision to secure the effectiveness of the appeal.
- (2) A stay—
- (a) may be given on the conditions the appeal body considers appropriate; and
 - (b) operates for the period fixed by the appeal body; and
 - (c) may be amended or cancelled by the appeal body.
- (3) The period of a stay under this section must not extend past the time when the appeal body decides the appeal.

- (4) The appeal affects the decision, or carrying out of the decision, only if it is stayed.

827 Hearing procedures

- (1) In deciding an appeal, the appeal body—
- (a) has the same powers as the original decider; and
 - (b) is not bound by the rules of evidence; and
 - (c) must comply with natural justice; and
 - (d) may hear the appeal in court or in chambers.
- (2) An appeal is by way of rehearing, unaffected by the decision.
- (3) Subject to subsections (1) and (2), the procedure for the appeal is—
- (a) in accordance with the rules for the appeal body; or
 - (b) in the absence of relevant rules, as directed by the appeal body.
- (4) A power under an Act to make rules for the appeal body includes power to make rules for appeals under this part.

828 Appeal body's powers on appeal

- (1) Subject to section 829, in deciding an appeal, the appeal body may—
- (a) confirm the decision; or
 - (b) set aside the decision and substitute another decision; or
 - (c) set aside the decision and return the issue to the original decider with the directions the appeal body considers appropriate.
- (2) If the appeal body substitutes another decision, the substituted decision is, for this Act, other than this chapter, taken to be the decision of the original decider.

829 Restriction on Land Court's powers for decision not to grant petroleum lease

- (1) This section applies if the Land Court is deciding an appeal against a decision under section 120 not to grant a petroleum lease.
- (2) The Land Court can not exercise a power mentioned in section 828(1)(b) or (c) in relation to the decision on the ground that the preference decision for the application for the lease was to give any coal or oil shale development preference, in whole or part.

830 Appeals from appeal body's decision

- (1) An appeal to the Court of Appeal from a decision of the District Court under this part may be made only on a question of law.
- (2) An appeal to the District Court from a decision of the industrial court under this part may be made only on a question of law.

Chapter 13 Evidence and legal proceedings

Part 1 Evidentiary provisions

831 Application of pt 1

This part applies to a proceeding under or in relation to this Act.

832 Appointments and authority

The following must be presumed unless a party to the proceeding, by reasonable notice, requires proof of it—

- (a) the appointment of an inspector or authorised officer;
- (b) the power of an official to do anything under this Act.

833 Signatures

A signature purporting to be the signature of an official is evidence of the signature it purports to be.

834 Other evidentiary aids

A certificate purporting to be signed by the chief executive stating any of the following matters is evidence of the matter—

- (a) a stated document, of any of the following types, is a document given, issued, kept or made under this Act—
 - (i) an appointment, approval or decision;
 - (ii) a direction, notice or requirement;
 - (iii) an authority under this Act;²⁵⁸
 - (iv) the petroleum register;
 - (v) the register the chief inspector keeps under section 730;
 - (vi) a safety management plan for an operating plant;
 - (vii) a report;
 - (viii) another record;
- (b) a stated document is another document kept under this Act;
- (c) a stated document is a copy of, or an extract from or part of, a thing mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b);
- (d) on a stated day—
 - (i) a stated person was given a stated decision, direction or notice under this Act; or

²⁵⁸ For the authorities under this Act, see section 18 (Types of authority under Act).

- (ii) a stated requirement under this Act was made of a stated person;
- (e) on a stated day, or during a stated period, an authority under this Act—
 - (i) was, or was not, in force; or
 - (ii) was, or was not, subject to a stated condition; or
 - (iii) was, or was not, cancelled or suspended;
- (f) a stated amount is payable under this Act by a stated person and has not been paid;
- (g) a stated address for the holder of an authority under this Act is the last address of the holder known to any official.

835 Proof of requirement for land

A certificate by the Minister that stated land taken under section 456(2) was required by the State or another stated person for a purpose mentioned in section 456(2) is evidence that the taking was for that purpose.

836 Safety management plans

If it is relevant to establish what was the safety management plan for an operating plant at a particular time, the copy of the plan that, under section 676(1)(a), was kept at the plant at that time is taken to be the original of the plan.

Part 2 Offence proceedings

837 Offences under Act are summary

- (1) An offence against this Act is a summary offence.
- (2) A proceeding for an offence against a provision of chapter 9, part 2, 4 or 6—
 - (a) must be brought before an industrial magistrate; and

- (b) can be started only by complaint of the commissioner.
- (3) The *Industrial Relations Act 1999* applies to a proceeding mentioned in subsection (2).²⁵⁹
- (4) A proceeding for an offence against this Act must start within the later of the following periods to end—
 - (a) 1 year after the commission of the offence;
 - (b) 6 months after the offence comes to the complainant's knowledge, but within 2 years after the commission of the offence;
 - (c) if the offence involves a breach of an obligation causing death and the death is investigated by a coroner under the *Coroners Act 2003*—2 years after the coroner makes a finding in relation to the death.

838 Statement of complainant's knowledge

In a complaint starting a proceeding for an offence against this Act, a statement that the matter of the complaint came to the complainant's knowledge on a stated day is evidence the matter came to the complainant's knowledge on that day.

839 Allegations of false or misleading matters

- (1) This section applies to a proceeding for an offence against this Act described as involving—
 - (a) false or misleading information; or
 - (b) a false or misleading document or statement.
- (2) It is enough for the complaint starting the proceeding to state the document, information or statement was 'false or misleading' to the defendant's knowledge, without specifying which.
- (3) In the proceeding, evidence that the document, information or statement was given or made recklessly is evidence that it was given or made so as to be false or misleading.

²⁵⁹ For appeals from the industrial magistrate's decision, see the *Industrial Relations Act 1999*, section 341 (Appeal from commission, magistrate or registrar).

840 Conduct of representatives

- (1) This section applies to a proceeding for an offence against this Act if it is relevant to prove a person's state of mind about particular conduct.
- (2) It is enough to show—
 - (a) the conduct was engaged in by a representative of the person within the scope of the representative's actual or apparent authority; and
 - (b) the representative had the state of mind.
- (3) Conduct engaged in for a person by a representative of the person within the scope of the representative's actual or apparent authority is taken to have been engaged in also by the person unless the person proves—
 - (a) if the person was in a position to influence the representative in relation to the conduct—the person took reasonable steps to prevent the conduct; or
 - (b) the person was not in a position to influence the representative in relation to the conduct.

- (4) In this section—

engaging in conduct includes failing to engage in conduct.

representative means—

- (a) for a corporation—an agent, employee or executive officer of the corporation; or
- (b) for an individual—an agent or employee of the individual.

state of mind, of a person, includes the person's—

- (a) belief, intention, knowledge, opinion or purpose; and
- (b) reasons for the belief, intention, opinion or purpose.

841 Additional orders that may be made on conviction

- (1) If a court convicts a person for an offence against this Act, it may—
 - (a) order the forfeiture to the State of—

- (i) anything used to commit the offence; or
 - (ii) anything else the subject of the offence; and
 - (b) make any order to enforce the forfeiture it considers appropriate; and
 - (c) order the person to pay the State the amount of costs it incurred for remedial work that was necessary or desirable because of the commission of the offence.²⁶⁰
- (2) Forfeiture of a thing may be ordered—
- (a) whether or not it has been seized under this Act; and
 - (b) if it has been seized under this Act, whether or not it has been returned to its owner.

Chapter 14 Miscellaneous provisions

Part 1 Applications

842 Substantial compliance with application requirements may be accepted

If—

- (a) a person has made, or purported to make, an application under this Act; and
- (b) the requirements under this Act for making the application have not been complied with; and
- (c) the decision-maker is satisfied the application substantially complies with the requirements;

the person who must decide the application may decide to allow it to proceed and be decided as if it did comply with the requirements.

²⁶⁰ See also section 580 (Power of authorised person to ensure compliance).

843 Additional information may be required about application

- (1) If a person (the *decider*) is deciding, or is required to decide, an application under this Act, the decider may, by notice, require the applicant to give the decider within a stated reasonable period—
 - (a) additional information about, or a document relevant to, the application; or
Example—

The application is for a petroleum lease. The Minister may require a document, prepared by an appropriately qualified person, independently verifying reserve data given in the proposed development plan for the petroleum lease.
 - (b) an independent report by an appropriately qualified person or a statutory declaration verifying all or any of the following—
 - (i) any information included in the application;
 - (ii) any additional information required under paragraph (a);
 - (iii) if the application is for a petroleum tenure—that the applicant meets the relevant capability criteria under chapter 2.
- (2) For subsection (1)(a), if the application is for a petroleum authority, a required document may include a survey or re-survey of the area of the proposed authority, carried out by a cadastral surveyor under the *Surveyors Act 2003*.
- (3) For subsection (1)(b), the notice may require the statutory declaration—
 - (a) to be made by an appropriately qualified person or by the applicant; or
 - (b) if the applicant is a corporation—to be made for the applicant by an executive officer of the applicant.
- (4) If the applicant does not comply with the requirement, the decider may refuse the application.
- (5) If—
 - (a) another provision of this Act provides that the application must be granted in particular circumstances

or if particular requirements have been complied with;
and

- (b) the additional information or declaration required to be given relates to whether any of the circumstances exist or whether the requirements have been complied with;

to remove any doubt, it is declared that subsection (3) applies despite the other provision.

- (6) The applicant must pay any costs incurred in complying with the notice.

844 Amending applications

- (1) If a person has made an application under this Act, the person may amend the application or a document accompanying the application only if—
 - (a) the application has not been decided; and
 - (b) the official who may or must decide the application has agreed to the making of the amendment; and
 - (c) if the proposed amendment is to change the applicant—each applicant, and proposed applicant, has agreed to the change.
- (2) However, if the application is a tender for a petroleum tenure—
 - (a) a proposed work program or development plan included in the tender can not be amended after the applicant has become the preferred tenderer for the tender; and
 - (b) the tender can not be otherwise amended after the closing time for the relevant call for tenders.
- (3) However, subsection (2)(b) does not apply if—
 - (a) the tenderer is a corporation; and
 - (b) the change is only a change of name of the tenderer; and
 - (c) the tenderer's Australian company number and Australian registered business name have not changed.
- (4) If, under subsection (1), the application is amended to change the applicant, for the purpose of deciding the application, the

applicant as changed is taken to have been the applicant from the making of the application.

845 Withdrawal of application

- (1) A person who has made an application under this Act may lodge a notice withdrawing the application at any time before the following—
 - (a) generally—before the application is decided;
 - (b) for a petroleum authority—the granting of the authority.
- (2) The notice must be lodged at the office at which this Act requires the application to be lodged.
- (3) The withdrawal takes effect when the notice is lodged.
- (4) If the applicant is a preferred tenderer for a call for tenders under chapter 2, the withdrawal does not affect the Minister's power to appoint another tenderer from the tenders made in response to the call to be the preferred tenderer.

846 Minister's power to refund application fee

If an application under this Act is withdrawn, the Minister may refund all or part of any fee paid for the application.

Part 2 Miscellaneous provisions for all authorities under Act

847 Application of pt 2

This part applies for any authority under this Act.²⁶¹

²⁶¹ For the authorities under the Act, see section 18 (Types of authority under Act).

848 Power to correct or amend

- (1) The official who may issue the authority may amend it at any time by giving its holder a notice of the amendment and recording particulars in the relevant register if the amendment—
 - (a) is to correct a clerical error; or
 - (b) for a petroleum authority—is to state or more accurately state the boundaries of the area of the authority because of a survey carried out under section 558.
- (2) The official who may issue the authority may, at any time, amend a condition of the authority if the authority holder authority agrees in writing.
- (3) Despite subsections (1) and (2), the following can not be amended under this section—
 - (a) the mandatory conditions for that type of authority;
 - (b) the term of the authority;
 - (c) any work program or development plan for the authority.
- (4) Also, the official can not amend the authority if the authority as amended would be inconsistent with a mandatory condition for that type of authority.²⁶²

849 Replacement of instrument for authority

- (1) If the instrument for the authority has been lost, stolen or destroyed, its holder may apply in writing to the official who may issue the instrument for the authority to replace it.
- (2) The application must be lodged at the office at which an application for that type of authority must be lodged.
- (3) If the official is reasonably satisfied the instrument has been lost, stolen or destroyed, the official must replace it.

262 See also section 377 (Interests of relevant coal or oil shale mining tenement holder to be considered).

- (4) If the official decides to refuse to replace the instrument, the official must give the holder an information notice about the decision.

850 Joint and several liability for conditions and for debts to State

If more than 1 person holds the authority each holder is jointly and severally—

- (a) responsible for complying with its conditions; and
- (b) liable for all debts payable under this Act and unpaid by the authority holder to the State.

851 Notice of authority or licence holder's agents

An official may refuse to deal with a person who claims to be acting as the authority holder's agent, unless the holder has given the official notice of the agency.

Part 3 Other miscellaneous provisions

852 Name and address for service

- (1) A person (the *first person*) may, by a signed notice lodged at the relevant office, nominate another person (a *nominated person*) at a stated address as the first person's address for service for this Act.
- (2) If this Act requires or permits any official to serve a notice or other document on the first person, it may be served on the first person by serving it on the last nominated person, at the stated address for that person.
- (3) In this section—
relevant office means—

- (a) the office of the department for lodging notices of address for service, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
- (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

serve includes give.

853 Additional information about reports and other matters

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person is required under this Act to lodge a notice or copy of a document, a report or information (the *advice*) with an official; and
 - (b) the person gives the advice.
- (2) The official may, by notice, require the person to give, within the reasonable time stated in the notice, written information about the matter for which the advice was given.
- (3) The person must comply with the notice.

Maximum penalty for subsection (3)—500 penalty units.

854 References to right to enter

A right under this Act to enter a place includes the right to—

- (a) leave and re-enter the place from time to time; and
- (b) remain on the place for the time necessary to achieve the purpose of the entry; and
- (c) take on the place equipment, materials, vehicles or other things reasonably necessary to exercise a power under this Act.²⁶³

855 Application of provisions

If a provision of this Act applies any of the following (the

²⁶³ For who may exercise a right of a petroleum authority holder to enter a place, see also section 563 (Who may carry out authorised activity for petroleum authority holder).

applied law) for a purpose—

- (a) another provision of this Act;
- (b) another law;
- (c) a provision of another law;

for that purpose, the applied law and any definition relevant to it apply, with necessary changes.

856 Protection from liability for particular persons

- (1) A person as follows (a *designated person*) does not incur civil liability for an act done, or omission made, honestly and without negligence under this Act—
 - (a) an official;
 - (b) a public service officer or employee;
 - (c) a contractor carrying out activities, relating to the administration of this Act, for the department;
 - (d) a person who is required to comply with a direction or requirement given under this Act and who is complying with the direction or requirement.

Example of an act done—

giving information or advice

- (2) For subsection (1)(a), it does not matter what is the form of appointment or employment of the person.
- (3) If subsection (1) prevents a civil liability attaching to a designated person, the liability attaches instead to the State.
- (4) In this section—

civil liability includes liability for the payment of costs ordered to be paid in a proceeding for an offence against this Act.

857 Delegation by Minister, chief executive or chief inspector

- (1) The Minister may delegate the Minister's powers under this Act to—

- (a) an appropriately qualified public service officer or employee; or
 - (b) an appropriately qualified contractor carrying out activities, relating to the administration of this Act, for the department.
- (2) The chief executive may delegate the chief executive's powers under this Act to a person mentioned in subsection (1).
 - (3) The chief inspector may delegate the chief inspector's powers under this Act to an inspector or, with the Minister's approval, a person mentioned in subsection (1).

858 Approved forms

- (1) The chief executive may approve forms for use under this Act.
- (2) The chief inspector may approve forms for use under chapters 7 to 10.
- (3) A form may be approved for use under this Act that is combined with, or is to be used together with, an approved form under another Act.

858A Practice manual

- (1) The chief executive may keep, in the way the chief executive considers appropriate, a manual (however called) about petroleum authority administration practice to guide and inform persons dealing with the department.
- (2) The manual may include—
 - (a) directions about—
 - (i) what information, documents or instruments (*material*) a person may or must give; and
 - (ii) how or when requested material must be given; and
 - (iii) the format of requested material; and
 - (b) practices to ensure there is consistency and efficiency in petroleum authority administration processes.
- (3) If—

- (a) a person is required or permitted to give the Minister or the chief executive (the *official*) information for a particular purpose relating to this Act; and
- (b) this Act does not provide for how the information may or must be given to the official for the purpose; and
- (c) the person gives the official the information in the way required or permitted under the manual;

the person is taken to have given the official the information for the purpose.

- (4) The information must be given at—
 - (a) if the manual states a particular office of the department where the information must be given (a *required office*)—that office; or
 - (b) if the manual does not state a required office and the information relates to a particular application—the department’s office where the application was lodged; or
 - (c) otherwise—the office of the chief executive.
- (5) The chief executive must—
 - (a) keep a copy of the manual and a record (however called) of each part of the manual, including the dates when each part was published or superseded; and
 - (b) make the manual and the record available to the public in the way the chief executive considers appropriate.
- (6) Without limiting subsection (5), the chief executive must ensure an up-to-date copy of the manual and the record are available to be read free of charge—
 - (a) on the department’s website; and
 - (b) if information relates to a particular application—at the department’s office where the application was lodged.

859 Regulation-making power

- (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations under this Act.

- (2) A regulation may be made about any of the following—
- (a) the fees payable under this Act, including late payment fees;
 - (b) imposing a penalty for a contravention of a provision of a regulation of no more than 20 penalty units.
- (3) A regulation under this Act may be made in the same instrument as a regulation made under the 1923 Act.

Chapter 15 Repeal and transitional provisions

Part 1 Repeal of Gas (Residual Provisions) Act 1965

860 Repeal

The Gas (Residual Provisions) Act 1965 No. 68 is repealed.²⁶⁴

Part 2 Transitional provisions for Repeal of Gas (Residual Provisions) Act 1965

861 Definitions for pt 2

In this division—

commencement means the day section 860 commences.

²⁶⁴ For the limited continued application of the *Gas (Residual Provisions) Act 1965* for a particular purpose, see section 937 (Existing operating plant).

repealed Act means the repealed *Gas (Residual Provisions) Act 1965*.

repealed regulation means the repealed *Gas (Residual Provisions) Regulation 1989*.

862 Meters

- (1) This section applies to a meter operated under the repealed Act immediately before the commencement.
- (2) Chapter 8, part 2, does not apply to the meter until the later of following—
 - (a) 6 months after the commencement;
 - (b) if a regulation made within the 6 months prescribes a later day—the later day.
- (3) The later day must not be later than 1 year after the commencement.

863 Applications to test meter correctness

- (1) This section applies if, immediately before the commencement, an application had been made under the repealed regulation, section 57, to have a meter tested and the test had not been carried out.
- (2) Despite their repeal, sections 57 and 58 of that regulation apply for the application, the test and its consequences, instead of chapter 8, part 5.

864 Licences under repealed regulation that become gas work licences

- (1) This section applies if, immediately before the commencement, a person held a licence under the repealed regulation, section 83, and the licence (the *old licence*) was—
 - (a) a gas installer's licence; or
 - (b) a gas serviceman's licence.
- (2) On the commencement, the old licence is taken to be a gas work licence for the same purpose as the old licence.

- (3) Subject to chapter 10, part 2, division 4, the term of the gas work licence ends when the term of the old licence would have ended.

865 Licences under repealed regulation that become gas work authorisations

- (1) This section applies if, immediately before the commencement, a person held a licence under the repealed regulation, section 83, and the licence was—
 - (a) a gas installer’s (advanced) licence; or
 - (b) a gas motor fuel installer’s licence; or
 - (c) a gas suppliers inspector’s licence.
- (2) On the commencement, the licence is taken to be an authorisation for the same purpose as the licence.
- (3) Subject to chapter 10, part 2, division 4, the term of the authorisation expires 12 months after the commencement.

866 Applications for licence similar to gas work licence or authorisation

- (1) This section applies if, immediately before the commencement, a licence application under the repealed regulation, section 84, had not been decided.
- (2) If the application is for a type of licence mentioned in section 864 or 865, it is, on the commencement, taken to be an application for a gas work licence or authorisation for the same purpose under this Act.
- (3) Otherwise, the application lapses and the application fee must be returned to the applicant.

867 Accidents

- (1) Despite its repeal, the repealed Act, as in force immediately before its repeal, continues to apply for an accident if—
 - (a) it happened before the commencement; and
 - (b) immediately before its repeal, section 10A of that Act applied to the accident; and

- (c) a report on the accident had not been completed before the commencement.
- (2) For applying subsection (1), a reference in the repealed Act to—
 - (a) the chief gas examiner is taken to be a reference to the chief inspector under this Act; and
 - (b) a gas examiner is taken to be a reference to any inspector under this Act.

868 Gas examiners

- (1) This section applies to a person who, immediately before the commencement, is, under the repealed Act, section 7—
 - (a) the chief gas examiner; or
 - (b) the deputy chief gas examiner; or
 - (c) a gas examiner.
- (2) On the commencement, the person holds the appointment of—
 - (a) if the person was the chief gas examiner—the chief inspector; or
 - (b) if the person was the deputy chief gas examiner—the deputy chief inspector; or
 - (c) if the person was a gas examiner—an inspector.

869 Gas examiners' requirements under repealed Act, s 8

- (1) This section applies if, immediately before the commencement—
 - (a) a gas examiner had given a person a requirement under the repealed Act, section 8; and
 - (b) the requirement was still in force and had not been complied with.
- (2) The requirement is, on the commencement, taken to be a dangerous situation direction given to the person on the commencement.

870 Gas examiners' powers under repealed Act, s 8(1)(e)

- (1) This section applies if, before the commencement—
 - (a) a gas examiner had seized and removed a substance under the repealed Act, section 8(1)(e); and
 - (b) the substance has not been dealt with under that Act.
- (2) The repealed Act, section 8(1)(e), continues to apply for the substance.
- (3) For subsection (1)(a), an inspector under this Act is taken to be a gas examiner.

871 Corresponding decisions under repealed Act

A decision made under the repealed Act about a matter provided for under this Act that continues to have effect immediately before the commencement is, on the commencement, taken to be a decision made under this Act on the commencement.

Part 3 Transitional provisions relating to 1923 Act**Division 1 Preliminary****872 Definitions for pt 3**

In this part—

converted ATP see section 876(a).

converted lease see section 894(a).

converted petroleum authority means—

- (a) a converted ATP; or
- (b) a converted lease; or

- (c) an entry permission that, under section 915, becomes a survey licence; or
- (d) a converted licence under section 916; or
- (e) a refinery permission under the 1923 Act, former section 66, that, under section 919 becomes a petroleum facility licence.

converted petroleum tenure means a converted ATP or converted lease.

CSG-related, for a 1923 Act ATP, means a 1923 Act ATP designated as ATP 337P, ATP 364P, ATP 553P or ATP 564P.

existing tenure see section 908.

grant application see section 908.

relevant 1923 Act ATP, for a converted ATP or a replacement tenure that is an authority to prospect, means the 1923 Act lease that the converted ATP or replacement tenure replaced, or is to replace.

relevant 1923 Act ATP, for a converted lease or a replacement tenure that is a petroleum lease, means the 1923 Act lease that the converted lease or replacement tenure replaced, or is to replace.

replacement tenure see section 908.

873 What is the *current term* of a converted ATP

- (1) The ***current term*** of a converted ATP is the period that starts on the later of the following days and ends when it is first renewed after 31 December 2004—
 - (a) the day the relevant 1923 Act ATP was granted;
 - (b) the day that the last renewal of the relevant 1923 Act ATP before 31 December 2004 became effective.
- (2) However, a relevant 1923 Act ATP granted between 1 January 1994 and 23 December 1996 ends on a day decided by the Minister.
- (3) For subsection (1)(b), a renewal of the relevant 1923 Act ATP is taken to have become effective on the day immediately after the end of its last term before the renewal.

874 What are the *transitional notional sub-blocks* for a converted ATP

- (1) The *transitional notional sub-blocks*, for a converted ATP, are the sub-blocks stated in the instrument for the converted ATP at the start of its current term.
- (2) However, the *transitional notional sub-blocks* do not include any of the sub-blocks stated in the instrument that are completely within the area of a petroleum lease or 1923 Act lease.
- (3) For subsection (1), if the instrument—
 - (a) states that the area of the converted ATP includes land within a block; but
 - (b) does not include or exclude any particular sub-block within that block;

the reference to the block is a reference to all sub-blocks within the block, other than any sub-block that is completely within the area of another petroleum tenure or a 1923 Act petroleum tenure.

Division 2 Conversion of particular 1923 Act ATPs to an authority to prospect under this Act

Subdivision 1 Conversion provisions

875 Application of div 2

This division applies to any 1923 Act ATP in force immediately before 31 December 2004 if it is not a 1923 Act ATP as follows or a renewal of a 1923 Act ATP as follows—

- (a) a 1923 Act ATP designated as ATP 212P, ATP 259P, ATP 267P, ATP 269P, ATP 299P, ATP 333P, ATP 336P, ATP 337P, ATP 364P, ATP 375P, ATP 470P, ATP 471P, ATP 526P, ATP 529P, ATP 539P, ATP 543P, ATP 545P, ATP 548P, ATP 549P, ATP 552P, ATP 553P, ATP 554P, ATP 556P, ATP 560P, ATP 564P ATP 701P; or

- (b) a 1923 Act ATP prescribed under a regulation notified before 31 December 2004.

876 Conversion on 2004 Act start day

On 31 December 2004—

- (a) the 1923 Act ATP ceases to be a 1923 Act ATP and becomes an authority to prospect under this Act (a *converted ATP*); and
- (b) the holder of the 1923 Act ATP is the holder of the converted ATP; and
- (c) the conditions of the 1923 Act ATP about expenditure or work become a later work program for the converted ATP; and
- (d) the period to which the conditions apply is taken to be the plan period for the work program; and
- (e) any condition of the 1923 Act ATP ceases to be a condition of the converted ATP if the condition is the same, or substantially the same, as any relevant environmental condition for the 1923 Act ATP; and
- (f) the converted ATP continues, subject to this Act, for the balance of the 1923 Act ATP's term; and
- (g) the converted ATP is held subject to this Act and the conditions of the 1923 Act ATP, as modified under this division; and
- (h) the area of the 1923 Act ATP becomes the area of the converted ATP.

Subdivision 2 Special provisions for converted ATPs

877 Exclusion from area of land in area of coal mining lease or oil shale mining lease

- (1) This section applies to land if it—

- (a) is within any transitional notional sub-block of a converted ATP; and
 - (b) was, when the relevant 1923 Act ATP was granted, in the area of a coal or oil shale mining lease, whether or not the land was in the area of the 1923 Act ATP.
- (2) Despite section 98, the land—
- (a) does not form part of the area of the converted ATP; and
 - (b) is taken to be excluded land for the converted ATP.

878 Relinquishment condition if converted ATP includes a reduction requirement

- (1) This section applies if a converted ATP requires its area to be reduced to a stated number of blocks on or before stated days.
- (2) Until the first renewal of the converted ATP after 31 December 2004—
 - (a) the requirement is the *relinquishment condition* for the converted ATP; and
 - (b) the requirement applies instead of chapter 2, part 1, division 4, subdivision 2.
- (3) However, the relinquishment condition is taken to include a requirement that, before the first renewal of the converted ATP after 31 December 2004, at least 5% of the transitional notional sub-blocks of the converted ATP must have been relinquished for each 12 month period of its current term.
- (4) Also, a relinquishment of a part of the area of the converted ATP that overlaps with the area of a lease under this Act or a 1923 Act lease can not be counted as a relinquishment for the relinquishment condition.

879 Relinquishment condition if authority does not include a reduction requirement

- (1) If the authority does not include a requirement mentioned in section 878(1), the *relinquishment condition* for the authority is the relinquishment condition under section 65, with the following changes—

- (a) the required percentage is 5% instead of 8.33%;
 - (b) the reference in section 66(2) to the authority originally taking effect is a reference to the start of its current term.
- (2) Chapter 2, part 1, division 4, subdivision 2 applies to the authority, subject to the changes under subsection (1).

880 Provision for conflicting conditions

- (1) If a provision of a converted ATP conflicts with any of the following (the *overruling provision*) the overruling provision prevails to the extent of the inconsistency—
- (a) a provision of this Act;
 - (b) a mandatory condition for authorities to prospect under this Act;
 - (c) a relevant environmental condition for the converted ATP.
- (2) However, section 98(7) does not apply for the converted ATP.

881 Additional conditions for renewal application

- (1) This section applies as well as section 81.
- (2) A converted ATP holder can not apply to renew the converted ATP if section 878 applies and the relinquishment condition under that section has not been complied with.
- (3) However, to the extent the application is for a whole sub-block in the area of a petroleum lease or 1923 Act lease, the application is invalid.

882 Term of renewed converted ATP

Despite section 85(7), a converted ATP may be renewed for a renewed term that ends no more than 12 years from—

- (a) if the renewal decision is made before the end of the current term for the converted ATP—the end of the current term; or

- (b) if the renewal decision is made after the end of the current term for the converted ATP—the day the decision is made.

883 Exclusion of s 98(7) for any renewal

Section 98(7) does not apply to a renewal of a converted ATP.

884 Existing renewal applications

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a 1923 Act ATP is in force immediately before 31 December 2004; and
 - (b) under section 876, the 1923 Act ATP becomes a converted ATP on 31 December 2004; and
 - (c) before 31 December 2004 an application to renew the 1923 Act ATP had been made under the 1923 Act, but the application had not been granted before that day.
- (2) On 31 December 2004, the application is taken to be a renewal application for the converted ATP made under sections 81 and 82.
- (3) Sections 882 and 883 apply to the renewal.

885 Continued application of 1923 Act, former s 22 to converted ATP for previous acts or omissions

Despite its repeal the 1923 Act, former section 22, as it was in force immediately before 31 December 2004, continues to apply to a converted ATP for an act done or omission made in relation to the relevant 1923 Act ATP that happened before that day, as if the converted ATP were still a 1923 Act ATP.

Division 3 **Unfinished applications for 1923 Act ATPs (other than applications for which a Commonwealth Native Title Act s 29 notice has been given)**

886 **Application of div 3**

This division applies for any 1923 Act ATP application if, immediately before 31 December 2004—

- (a) the application had not been granted or rejected; and
- (b) a notice under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, section 29, had not been given for the proposed 1923 Act ATP the subject of the application.²⁶⁵

887 **Applications for which notice of intention to grant has been given**

- (1) This section applies if, before 31 December 2004, the Minister gave the applicant a notice of intention to grant the applicant a 1923 Act ATP, subject to stated requirements.
- (2) The application is taken to be a tender, under chapter 2, part 1, division 2, for a proposed authority to prospect, made in response to a call for tenders for that proposed authority.
- (3) The closing time for the call is taken to have passed.
- (4) The applicant is taken to have been appointed, under section 39, as the preferred tenderer for the call.
- (5) The stated requirements are taken to be requirements made under section 40.

888 **Applications in response to public notice**

- (1) This section applies if—

²⁶⁵ If a notice under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, section 29 has been given, see the 1923 Act, section 151 (Unfinished authority to prospect applications for which a Commonwealth Native Title Act s 29 notice has been given).

- (a) a notice of intention to grant mentioned in section 887(1) had not been given before 31 December 2004; and
 - (b) the application was made in response to a public notice, published by the Minister or the department, inviting applications for a 1923 Act ATP; and
 - (c) the notice complies, or substantially complies with section 35(2).
- (2) The public notice is taken to be a call for tenders for a proposed authority to prospect.
 - (3) The call is taken to have been made when the public notice was published.
 - (4) The closing time for the call is taken to be the day stated in the public notice by which applications must be submitted.
 - (5) The application is taken to be a tender, under chapter 2, part 1, division 2, for the proposed authority, made in response to the call.

889 Other applications made before introduction of Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2004

If the application—

- (a) was made before the day the *Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2004* was introduced into Parliament; and
- (b) is not an application to which section 887 or 888 applies;

it is taken to be a tender, under chapter 2, part 1, division 2 for a proposed authority to prospect, made in response to a call for tenders for the proposed authority.

890 Lapsing of all other applications

The application lapses on 31 December 2004 unless it is an application to which section 887, 888 or 889 applies.

Division 4 **Transition, by application, from
1923 Act ATP to petroleum lease
under this Act**

891 **Right of 1923 Act ATP holder to apply for petroleum lease**

- (1) The holder of a 1923 Act ATP may, after 31 December 2004, apply for a petroleum lease under this Act for all or part of the area of the 1923 Act ATP.
- (2) The application may include a request that excluded land for the 1923 Act ATP be declared to be excluded land for the petroleum lease.

892 **Provisions for deciding application and grant of
petroleum lease**

- (1) The following provisions of this Act apply for the application as if a reference in the provisions to an authority to prospect included a reference to the 1923 Act ATP—
 - (a) chapter 2, part 2, division 2, other than sections 120, 121 and 122;
 - (b) chapter 2, part 2, division 4;
 - (c) chapter 2, part 2, division 7, subdivision 1;
 - (d) section 101.

Note—

Chapters 3 and 3A may also apply for the application. See sections 297 and 392AA.

- (2) This section does not limit division 7.

Division 5 Conversion of particular 1923 Act leases to petroleum leases

Subdivision 1 Conversion provisions

893 Application of sdiv 1

This division applies to—

- (a) the 1923 Act leases numbered 194, 195, 198, 209, 219, 220 and 226; and
- (b) another 1923 Act lease prescribed under a regulation notified before 31 December 2004.

894 Conversion on 2004 Act start day

On 31 December 2004—

- (a) the 1923 Act lease ceases to be a 1923 Act lease and becomes a petroleum lease under this Act (a *converted lease*); and
- (b) the holder of the 1923 Act lease is the holder of the converted lease; and
- (c) the current program for development and production for the 1923 Act lease is taken to be the development plan for the converted lease; and
- (d) any condition of the 1923 Act lease ceases to be a condition of the converted lease if the condition is the same, or substantially the same as any relevant environmental condition for the converted lease; and
- (e) the converted lease continues, subject to this Act, for the balance of the 1923 Act lease's term; and
- (f) the converted lease is held subject to this Act and the conditions of the 1923 Act lease, other than any condition mentioned in paragraph (d); and
- (g) the area of the 1923 Act lease becomes the area of the converted lease.

Subdivision 2 Special provisions for converted leases

895 Provision for conflicting conditions

- (1) If a provision of the 1923 Act lease conflicts with any of the following (the *overruling provision*) the overruling provision prevails to the extent of the inconsistency—
 - (a) a provision of this Act;
 - (b) a mandatory condition for petroleum leases under this Act;
 - (c) a relevant environmental condition for the converted lease.
- (2) However, section 168(6) does not apply to the converted lease or for any renewal of the lease.

896 Sunsetting of particular activities

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an activity for a converted lease is provided for under the provisions of the lease; and
 - (b) the activity was, under the relevant 1923 Act lease, being carried out before 31 December 2004; and
 - (c) the carrying out of the activity—
 - (i) is, other than for this section, not an Act authorised activity for the converted lease; or
 - (ii) is inconsistent with an Act authorised activity.
- (2) Despite the provisions of the lease or the definition of authorised activity in schedule 2, the activity is taken to be an authorised activity for the converted lease.
- (3) Subsection (2) ceases to apply on the fifth anniversary of 31 December 2004.
- (4) Subsection (2) applies whether or not the activity was being carried out immediately before 31 December 2004.
- (5) In this section—

Act authorised activity means an activity that, under a provision of this Act, is an authorised activity for a petroleum lease.

897 Additional obligation of converted lease holder to lodge proposed later development plan

- (1) This section applies, as well as section 159, to a converted lease holder.
- (2) If any of the area of the converted lease is, on 31 December 2004, the subject of an application for a coal exploration tenement or coal mining lease, the holder must lodge a proposed later development plan for the converted lease before 6 months after 31 December 2004 (the *relevant time*).
- (3) If, on 31 December 2004, the remaining term of the converted lease is 5 years or more, the holder must lodge a proposed later development plan for the converted lease before the first anniversary of the original grant of the relevant 1923 Act lease that happens after 6 months after 31 December 2004 (also the *relevant time*).
- (4) The obligation under subsection (2) or (3) is complied with only if the proposed later development plan—
 - (a) is lodged at—
 - (i) the office of the department for lodging proposed later development plans, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
 - (b) complies with the later development plan requirements;²⁶⁶ and
 - (c) is accompanied by the relevant fee.
- (5) If, before the relevant time, a decision is made not to approve a proposed later development plan lodged under subsection

266 See chapter 2, part 2, division 4, subdivision 4 (Requirements for proposed later development plans).

For leases mentioned in subsection (2) see also section 384 (Additional criteria).

- (2) or (3), the holder may lodge another proposed later development plan before that time.
- (6) If the holder does not lodge any proposed later development plan before the relevant time—
- (a) the holder must be given a notice requiring the holder to lodge a proposed later development plan for the lease within 20 business days after the giving of the notice; and
 - (b) the holder must comply with the requirement.
- (7) Chapter 2, part 2, division 4, subdivision 5 applies to a proposed later development plan lodged under this section.
- (8) In this section—
- relevant fee**, for the lodgement of the proposed plan, means—
- (a) if the proposed plan is lodged before the relevant time—the fee prescribed under a regulation; or
 - (b) if the proposed plan is lodged after the relevant time and—
 - (i) it is lodged under subsection (5)—nil; or
 - (ii) otherwise 20 times the prescribed fee.

898 Consequence of failure to comply with notice to lodge proposed later development plan

- (1) If a converted lease holder does not comply with a requirement under section 897(6)(a), the lease is cancelled.
- (2) However, the cancellation does not take effect until the holder is given a notice stating that the lease has been cancelled because of the operation of subsection (1).

899 Existing renewal applications

If—

- (a) under section 894, a former 1923 Act lease becomes a converted lease on 31 December 2004; and
- (b) before 31 December 2004, an application to renew the lease had been made under the 1923 Act; and

- (c) immediately before 31 December 2004 the application had not been granted;

on 31 December 2004, the application is taken to be a renewal application for the converted lease, made under sections 161 and 162.

900 Exclusion of s 168(8) for any renewal application

Section 168(8) does not apply to—

- (a) a renewal application to which section 899 applies; or
(b) any subsequent renewal application for the converted lease the subject of that application.

901 Lapsing of undecided applications to unite converted leases that relate to a converted lease

If—

- (a) immediately before 31 December 2004, an application had been made under the 1923 Act, section 100, to unite 1923 Act leases; and
(b) on 31 December 2004—
(i) any of the 1923 Act leases becomes a converted lease; and
(ii) the application had not been decided;

the application lapses on 31 December 2004.

Subdivision 3 Conversion provision inserted under Mines and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 2008 for PL 200

901A Application of sdivs 1 and 2

- (1) This section applies to the 1923 Act lease numbered 200.
(2) Subdivisions 1 and 2 apply to the lease as if the reference in the subdivisions to 31 December 2004 were a reference to the day this section commences.

- (3) For applying any other provision of this part, the lease is taken to be a converted lease.

Division 6 Provisions for particular 1923 Act lease applications and 1923 Act lease renewal applications²⁶⁷

Subdivision 1 Existing 1923 Act, s 40 applications relating to a CSG related 1923 Act ATP or a converted ATP

902 Application of sdiv 1

This subdivision applies if—

- (a) before 31 December 2004, an application had been made under the 1923 Act, section 40, by the holder of a 1923 Act ATP for a 1923 Act lease; and
- (b) immediately before 31 December 2004, the application had not been decided; and
- (c) either—
 - (i) the 1923 Act ATP is CSG-related; or
 - (ii) under section 876, the 1923 Act ATP becomes a converted ATP on 31 December 2004.

903 Applications for CSG-related 1923 Act ATPs

- (1) If the 1923 Act ATP is CSG-related, the application is taken to be an application under the following division—
- (a) if the relevant coal or oil shale mining tenement is a coal or oil shale exploration tenement—whichever of chapter 3, part 2, division 1 or 2 applies;

²⁶⁷ For other applications, see the 1923 Act, part 10 (Transitional provisions for 1923 Act petroleum tenures from 31 December 2004).

- (b) if the relevant coal or oil shale mining tenement is a coal or oil shale mining lease—whichever of chapter 3, part 3, division 2 or 3 applies.
- (2) However, no step may be taken in relation to the application until the relevant requirements under the division for making an application have been complied with.²⁶⁸
- (3) For section 842, the application is taken to be an application under this Act.

904 Other applications

- (1) If the 1923 Act ATP is not CSG-related, the application is taken to be an ATP-related application.
- (2) Chapter 2, part 2, division 2, applies to the application.

Note—

Chapter 3 may also apply for the application. See section 297.

- (3) For section 842, the application is taken to be an application under this Act.

Subdivision 2 Petroleum leases provided for under particular agreements before or after 31 December 2004

905 Application of sdiv 2

This subdivision applies if, before or after 31 December 2004, an agreement as follows provides for the granting of a proposed petroleum lease under this Act—

- (a) an agreement mentioned in the Commonwealth Native Title Act, section 31(1)(b);
- (b) an indigenous land use agreement registered on the register of indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act.²⁶⁹

²⁶⁸ See also section 843 (Additional information may be required about application).

²⁶⁹ See section 908 (Right to apply for petroleum tenure).

906 Petroleum lease under this Act may be granted if so provided

- (1) If the agreement provides for the proposed petroleum lease to be granted under this Act, it may be applied for and granted under this Act.
- (2) If the agreement provides for the proposed lease to be renewed under this Act, it may be renewed as a petroleum lease under this Act.

907 Restriction on term of petroleum lease

The term of the renewed petroleum lease must not be longer than the shorter of the following—

- (a) 30 years;
- (b) the original term of the petroleum lease;
- (c) its last renewed term.

Division 7 Later grant of petroleum tenure to replace equivalent 1923 Act petroleum tenure**Subdivision 1 Applying for and obtaining replacement tenure****908 Right to apply for petroleum tenure**

- (1) The holder of a 1923 Act ATP (the *existing tenure*) may apply (the *grant application*) for an authority to prospect (the *replacement tenure*) under this Act for all or part of the area of the 1923 Act ATP.
- (2) The holder of a 1923 Act lease (also the *existing tenure*) may apply (also the *grant application*) for a petroleum lease under this Act (also the *replacement tenure*) for all or part of the area of the 1923 Act lease.
- (3) The grant application can not be made before 31 December 2004.

- (4) The grant application may include a request that excluded land for the existing tenure be declared to be excluded land for the replacement tenure.

909 Continuing effect of existing tenure for grant application

- (1) This section applies if before the grant application is decided the term of the existing tenure ends.
- (2) Despite the ending of the term, the existing tenure continues in force until the earlier of the following to happen—
- (a) the replacement tenure is granted;
 - (b) the application is rejected;
 - (c) the application is withdrawn;
 - (d) the existing tenure is cancelled under the 1923 Act.

910 Renewal application provisions apply for making and deciding grant application

- (1) Subject to subdivision 2, the following provisions apply to the making and deciding of the grant application and to the replacement tenure—
- (a) if the existing tenure is a 1923 Act ATP—
 - (i) chapter 2, part 1, division 5, other than section 83; and
 - (ii) sections 99 and 100;
 - (b) if the existing tenure is a 1923 Act lease—
 - (i) chapter 2, part 2, division 6, other than sections 161(2) and (3), 162(1)(a) and (h) and 163;
 - (ii) sections 169 and 170.
- (2) The provisions applied under subsection (1) apply as if—
- (a) the grant application were an application to renew the type of petroleum tenure that corresponds to the existing tenure; and
 - (b) in chapter 2, part 1, division 5, a reference to—

- (i) the authority to prospect were a reference to the 1923 Act ATP; and
- (ii) the authority to prospect holder were a reference to the 1923 Act ATP holder; and
- (iii) a work program for the authority to prospect were a reference to the work program for the 1923 Act ATP; and
- (iv) the renewed authority to prospect were a reference to the replacement tenure; and
- (c) in chapter 2, part 2, division 6, a reference to—
 - (i) the petroleum lease were a reference to the 1923 Act lease; and
 - (ii) the petroleum lease holder were a reference to the 1923 Act lease holder; and
 - (iii) a development plan for the petroleum lease were a reference to the development plan under the 1923 Act for the 1923 Act lease; and
 - (iv) the renewed petroleum lease were a reference to the replacement tenure; and
- (d) a reference to—
 - (i) the civil penalty were a reference to the civil penalty under the 1923 Act; and
 - (ii) interest were a reference to interest under the 1923 Act.
- (3) Sections 98 and 168 do not apply to the replacement tenure.

Note—

Chapters 3 and 3A may also apply for the grant application. See sections 297 and 392AA.

911 Effect of replacement tenure on existing tenure

- (1) This section applies if the replacement tenure takes effect.
- (2) If the area the subject of the grant application is all the land in the area of the existing tenure, the existing tenure ends.

- (3) If the area the subject of the grant application is only part of the land in the area of the existing tenure—
 - (a) the part ceases to be in the area of the existing tenure; and
 - (b) land that, at any time, is declared to be excluded land for the replacement tenure ceases to be excluded land for the existing tenure.

911A Provision for continuance of 1923 Act make good obligation

The make good obligation for the replacement tenure applies as if a reference in this Act to the exercise of underground water rights for the replacement tenure included a reference to the taking of water necessarily taken as part of petroleum production under the existing tenure.

Subdivision 2 Special provisions for the replacement tenure

912 Restrictions on term and renewed terms

- (1) If the replacement tenure is an authority to prospect the term of any renewal of the tenure must not end more than 12 years from the end of its current term.
- (2) The *current term* of an authority to prospect is the period that starts on the later of the following days and ends when it is first renewed after 31 December 2004—
 - (a) the day the relevant 1923 Act ATP was granted;
 - (b) the day that the last renewal of the relevant 1923 Act ATP before 31 December 2004 became effective.
- (3) However, a relevant 1923 Act ATP granted between 1 January 1994 and 23 December 1996 ends on a day decided by the Minister.
- (4) For subsection (2)(b), a renewal of the authority is taken to have become effective on the day immediately after the end of its last term before the renewal.

- (4) The licence is held subject to this Act and the conditions of the permission.
- (5) However, if a condition of the permission conflicts with a mandatory condition for survey licences²⁷⁰ or any relevant environmental condition for the licence, the mandatory condition or relevant environmental condition prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

916 Pipeline licences

- (1) This section applies if a pipeline licence (the *old licence*) under the 1923 Act is in force immediately before 31 December 2004 for land.
- (2) On 31 December 2004—
 - (a) the old licence is a pipeline licence under this Act for the land (a *converted licence*); and
 - (b) the holder of the old licence is the holder of the converted licence; and
 - (c) if the old licence had a term, the converted licence is for the balance of the old licence's term; and
 - (d) the converted licence is held subject to this Act and the conditions of the old licence, other than any condition that is the same, or substantially the same, as any relevant environmental condition for the converted licence.
- (3) However, if a condition of the old licence conflicts with any of the following (the *overruling provision*) the overruling provision prevails to the extent of the inconsistency—
 - (a) a provision of this Act;
 - (b) a mandatory condition for pipeline licences under this Act;
 - (c) a relevant environmental condition for the converted licence.

270 See chapter 5 (Common petroleum authority provisions).

917 Requests for pipeline licence

If, before 31 December 2004, the Minister was asked to grant a pipeline licence under the 1923 Act for land, the Minister may treat the request as a pipeline licence application made under chapter 4, part 2 for the land.

918 Approvals under 1923 Act, s 75(5) continue in force

An approval under the 1923 Act, former section 75(5), that is in force immediately before 31 December 2004 for land, despite the repeal of former section 75, continues in force for the land.

919 Refinery permissions

- (1) This section applies if a refinery permission under the 1923 Act, former section 66, is in force immediately before 31 December 2004.
- (2) If, immediately before 31 December 2004, the refinery had been constructed and was in operation, on 31 December 2004—
 - (a) the permission is a petroleum facility licence; and
 - (b) the holder of the permission is the holder of the licence; and
 - (c) if the permission had a term—the term of the licence is the balance of the permission's term; and
 - (d) if the permission did not have a term—the term of the licence ends 30 years after 31 December 2004; and
 - (e) the licence is held subject to this Act and the conditions of the permission, other than any condition that is the same, or substantially the same, as any relevant environmental condition for the licence; and
 - (f) until an annual fee is prescribed for the licence, the annual fee for the licence is the annual fee payable for the permission.
- (3) However, if a condition of the permission conflicts with any of the following (the *overruling provision*) the overruling provision prevails to the extent of the inconsistency—

- (a) a provision of this Act;
 - (b) a mandatory condition for petroleum facility licences;
 - (c) a relevant environmental condition for the petroleum facility licence.
- (4) If the refinery had not been constructed or was not in operation immediately before 31 December 2004, the permission lapses.

Division 9 Securities

920 Monetary securities

- (1) This section applies to security (the *existing security*) held as money in relation to a converted petroleum authority immediately before 31 December 2004.
- (2) The department must, as soon as practicable, after 31 December 2004, transfer the following part of the existing security (the *environmental component*) to the administering authority under the Environmental Protection Act—
 - (a) if the converted petroleum authority is an authority to prospect—the amount of the existing security, less \$4000;
 - (b) if the converted petroleum authority is a petroleum lease—the amount of the existing security, less \$10000.
- (3) On the transfer, the rest of the existing security is taken to be security given under this Act for the converted petroleum authority.
- (4) Until the transfer happens, the existing security may continue to be used for any purpose for which it was given.
- (5) In this section—
used includes realised, in whole or part.

921 Non-monetary securities

- (1) This section applies to security held, other than as money, in relation to a converted petroleum authority.

- (2) From 31 December 2004, the security may continue to be used for any purpose for which it was given.
- (3) However, subsection (2) does not—
 - (a) prevent the security being used after 31 December 2004 in relation to an act done or omission made before 31 December 2004 if it could have been used in relation to the act or omission immediately before 31 December 2004; or
 - (b) affect the power under this Act to require replacement security or additional security for the converted petroleum authority;²⁷¹ or
 - (c) affect any power under the Environmental Protection Act to require financial assurance for any relevant environmental authority for the converted petroleum authority.
- (4) In this section—

used includes realised, in whole or part.

Division 10 Compensation

922 Accrued compensation rights relating to converted petroleum authority

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a right, under the former 1923 Act compensation provisions, to compensation existed immediately before 31 December 2004; and
 - (b) the right relates to a converted petroleum authority.
- (2) The right continues after 31 December 2004.
- (3) The compensation must be decided under the former 1923 Act compensation provisions as if the provisions had not been repealed.

271 See chapter 5, part 1 (Security).

(4) A matter relating to the compensation that, before 31 December 2004, had been referred to the Land and Resources Tribunal but not decided must be decided under the former 1923 Act compensation provisions.

(5) In this section—

former 1923 Act compensation provisions means sections 18(5) and 97 to 99 of the 1923 Act, as they were in force immediately before 31 December 2004.

923 Existing compensation agreements relating to converted petroleum authority

(1) This section applies to an agreement mentioned in section 98(1) of the 1923 Act, as it was in force immediately before 31 December 2004, for compensation relating to a converted petroleum authority.

(2) On 31 December 2004, the agreement is taken to be a compensation agreement made under this Act.

(3) The agreement may be enforced as if the agreement were a compensation agreement under chapter 5, part 5.

(4) However, the agreement can not be the subject of an application under section 534.

(5) Subsection (3) applies even if the agreement was not valid because section 98(2) of the 1923 Act, as it was in force immediately before 31 December 2004, had not been complied with.

Division 11 Miscellaneous provisions

924 Conversion of unitisation arrangement or unit development agreement to coordination arrangement

(1) This section applies to a unit development agreement approved under the 1923 Act, section 102(2) or unitisation arrangement under that Act, if the agreement or arrangement was in force immediately before 31 December 2004.

(2) On 31 December 2004, the agreement or arrangement is taken to be a coordination arrangement approved under section 236.

- (3) The parties to the agreement or arrangement are the parties to the coordination arrangement.
- (4) For the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cwlth), the approval and authority under section 63(5) of that Act, as in force immediately before 31 December 2004, continues for the unitisation arrangement.

925 Entry notices under Petroleum Regulation 1966, s 17

- (1) This section applies if a notice of entry under the *Petroleum Regulation 1966*, section 17 is in force immediately before 31 December 2004 and the notice relates to a converted petroleum tenure or a replacement tenure.
- (2) On 31 December 2004—
 - (a) the notice of entry is taken to be an entry notice; and
 - (b) the entry notice is taken to have been given under chapter 5, part 2; and
 - (c) the entry period for the entry notice is the shorter of the following periods to end—
 - (i) the balance of the period of the notice of entry;
 - (ii) the period that ends 6 months after 31 December 2004.

926 Provisions for petroleum royalty

- (1) If immediately before 31 December 2004—
 - (a) royalty was payable under the 1923 Act for petroleum produced before 31 December 2004; and
 - (b) the royalty had not been paid;from 31 December 2004, the royalty may be recovered from the petroleum producer as petroleum royalty payable under this Act.
- (2) Chapter 6 applies to petroleum produced before 31 December 2004 if liability under the 1923 Act for actual payment of the royalty had not arisen before that day.

- (3) Despite subsections (1) and (2), petroleum royalty is not payable under this Act for petroleum flared or vented under an approval given under the 1923 Act before 31 December 2004.

927 Corresponding approvals and decisions under 1923 Act for a converted petroleum authority

- (1) This section applies to an approval or decision—
- (a) about any of the following under the 1923 Act—
 - (i) an authority to prospect;
 - (ii) a petroleum lease;
 - (iii) a pipeline licence;
 - (iv) a refinery permission; and
 - (b) made under the 1923 Act about a matter provided for under this Act; and
 - (c) that continues to have effect immediately before 31 December 2004.
- (2) On 31 December 2004, the approval or decision is taken to be an approval or decision made for the corresponding matter under this Act.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies subject to any other provision of this part.
- (4) For subsection (2), an approval under the 1923 Act, former section 56(1)(c) is also taken to be—
- (a) for a converted ATP—an approval under section 73; or
 - (b) for a converted lease—an approval under 152.

928 Existing dealing applications

- (1) This section applies if, before 31 December 2004—
- (a) an application was made under the 1923 Act for approval of, or consent to, a dealing relating to a 1923 Act petroleum tenure or a licence under that Act that a converted petroleum authority replaced; and
 - (b) the application had not been decided.

- (2) If the dealing is of a type that is a permitted dealing, the application is taken to be an application under this Act for approval of a permitted dealing.
- (3) Otherwise, the application lapses.

929 Continuance of fees under 1923 Act

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if a fee (the *existing fee*) for a matter relating to a type of authority under the 1923 Act (the *corresponding matter*) is imposed under that Act.
- (2) Until a fee is prescribed for the corresponding matter for the corresponding type of authority under this Act, the existing fee is taken to be the prescribed fee under this Act for the corresponding matter.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies to a petroleum authority whether or not it—
 - (a) was granted under this Act; or
 - (b) is a converted petroleum authority.
- (4) Subsection (5) applies if—
 - (a) under a converted petroleum authority, a fee (also the *existing fee*) is imposed for a matter relating to the authority; and
 - (b) the 1923 Act does not provide for a fee for the matter.
- (5) Until a fee is prescribed for the corresponding matter for the converted petroleum authority, the existing fee is taken to be the prescribed fee under this Act for the corresponding matter under this Act.
- (6) In this section—

fee includes application fee, annual or other rent, licence fee and petroleum royalty.

930 Fees for existing applications

If—

- (a) before 31 December 2004, an application had been made for or about an approval, authority, lease, licence

or permission under the 1923 Act that becomes, or will, if granted, become a petroleum authority under this Act; and

- (b) a fee is prescribed under this Act for the application or the corresponding application under this Act;

the Minister may waive payment of the fee, in whole or part.

931 References in Acts and documents to 1923 Act

- (1) Subject to divisions 2 and 5, a reference in an Act or document to—
- (a) the 1923 Act is, if the context permits, a reference to this Act; and
- (b) a provision of the 1923 Act is, if the context permits, a reference to the corresponding provision of this Act.
- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply if the reference is in relation to a 1923 Act petroleum tenure—
- (a) that, on 31 December 2004, does not become a converted petroleum tenure; or
- (b) until the tenure becomes a replacement tenure, on or after the commencement of the *Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005*.

Part 4 Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004

Division 1 Provisions for particular existing mining tenements

932 Application of s 6 to particular existing mining tenements

- (1) This section applies to a mining tenement in force immediately before the commencement, other than a coal or

oil shale mining tenement.

- (2) Section 6 applies to the mining tenement as if it had been granted after the commencement.
- (3) However, for a mining tenement other than a mining lease, section 6(3) and (6) does not apply for the carrying out of an authorised activity for a petroleum authority in the area of the tenement until 3 months after the commencement.
- (4) The Mineral Resources Act, section 403, does not apply for the carrying out of the authorised activity until 3 months after the commencement.
- (5) In this section—

commencement means the day section 6 commences.

933 Deferral of s 115(1) for existing petroleum leases

Section 115(1) does not apply to the holder of a petroleum lease in force on the commencement of this section until 12 months after 31 December 2004.

Division 2 Provision for coal seam gas

934 Substituted restriction for petroleum leases relating to mineral hydrocarbon mining leases

- (1) If section 364 applies for a petroleum lease and any applicant for the petroleum lease was the holder of a relevant mineral hydrocarbon mining lease, that section applies as if the reference in section 364(2)(b) to—
 - (a) incidental coal seam gas were a reference to coal seam gas; and
 - (b) the mine working envelope were a reference to the area of the mineral hydrocarbon mining lease.
- (2) In this section—

relevant mineral hydrocarbon mining lease means a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease, the area of which includes the overlapping ATP land to which section 364 applies.

Division 3 Provisions for existing Water Act bores

934A Exemption from, or deferral of, reporting provisions for existing petroleum tenure holders

- (1) This section applies to the holder of any petroleum tenure under which petroleum production is carried out before 30 June 2005.
- (2) The holder must, within 12 months after 31 December 2004, lodge at the following office a statement about the need to have an underground water impact report for the tenure—
 - (a) the office of the department for lodging the statement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
 - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) The chief executive may, after considering the statement, decide whether an underground water impact report is required for the tenure.
- (4) The chief executive may require the holder to give the chief executive further information to enable the chief executive to make a decision under subsection (3).
- (5) If the chief executive decides an underground water impact report is not required, sections 256 and 267 are taken never to have applied to the holder.
- (6) If the chief executive decides an underground water impact report is required, the chief executive may decide a reasonable time by which the report must be lodged.
- (7) If, under subsection (6), the chief executive decides a time, section 256 is taken not to apply to the holder until that time.
- (8) A decision under this section has no effect until the holder is given notice of it.

934B Make good obligation only applies for existing Water Act bores on or from 31 December 2004

Section 250 only applies in relation to an existing Water Act

bore that was in existence on 31 December 2004 or came into existence after that day.

Division 4 Miscellaneous provisions

935A Deferred application of s 526 for particular petroleum authority holders

If, immediately before 31 December 2004, a petroleum authority holder is lawfully carrying out an authorised activity for the authority on public land, section 526 does not apply to the holder until 6 months after 31 December 2004.

936 Deferral of s 803 for existing petroleum facilities

Section 803 does not apply for a petroleum facility that was operating at any time within 2 weeks before the commencement of that section until 1 year after the commencement.

937 Existing operating plant

- (1) Until 1 July 2005, chapter 9, parts 2 and 4, (other than part 4, division 7) do not apply to plant operated, or an activity carried out, under this Act.
- (4) Until chapter 9, parts 2 and 4 apply, the following continue to apply to the plant or activity—
 - (a) the repealed *Gas (Residual Provisions) Act 1965* as in force immediately before the commencement;
 - (b) the 1923 Act as in force immediately before the commencement.

938 Exclusion of ch 5, pt 3, div 1 for continuance of particular existing road uses

- (1) If, immediately before the commencement, a petroleum authority holder was using a public road in the area of the authority for transport relating to a seismic survey or drilling

activity, chapter 5, part 3, division 1 does not apply for the use while it continues.

- (2) Subsection (1) applies for the use (the *haulage use*) by a petroleum authority holder of a public road for haulage that relates to—
 - (a) the transportation of petroleum produced or processed in the area of the authority; or
 - (b) the construction of a pipeline.
- (3) Chapter 5, part 3, division 1 does not apply for the haulage use if—
 - (a) at any time within 12 months before the commencement, the holder was carrying out the haulage use; and
 - (b) the type of haulage under the haulage use is the same, or substantially the same, as the type of haulage carried out within the 12 months.
- (4) Subsection (1) applies even if the haulage use stops and later starts again.
- (5) In this section—

commencement means the day section 516 commences.

Part 5

Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005

938A Pipeline licences

- (1) This section applies for a pipeline licence that became a converted licence under section 916(2)(a).
- (2) On the day the *Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005* commences, the converted licence becomes a point to point pipeline licence under this Act.

938B Requests for pipeline licences

- (1) This section applies for a request mentioned in section 917 that has not been decided before the day the *Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005* commences.
- (2) On the day that Act commences, the request is taken to be a request for a point to point pipeline licence under this Act.

938C 1923 Act water bores

- (1) Subsection (2) applies for a water bore—
 - (a) drilled with the permission of the Minister under the 1923 Act, section 86; and
 - (b) within the area of a converted petroleum tenure.
- (2) On and from the day the *Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005* commences, the water bore—
 - (a) is taken to be a water supply bore under this Act; and
 - (b) may be transferred without complying with section 288(3).
- (3) Subsection (4) applies for a water bore—
 - (a) drilled with the permission of the Minister under the 1923 Act, section 86; and
 - (b) within the area of a replacement tenure.
- (4) On and from the day the area becomes a replacement tenure, the water bore—
 - (a) is taken to be a water supply bore under this Act; and
 - (b) may be transferred without complying with section 288(3).

938D Decommissioning wells and bores

- (1) Until 1 July 2005, subsection (2) applies to a well or bore mentioned in section 292 instead of section 292(4)(a).
- (2) The well or bore must be plugged and abandoned under the 1923 Act, as the 1923 Act was immediately before the commencement of this section.

Part 6 **Transitional provision for Mining and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2007**

939 **Provision for amendment of s 893**

Chapter 15, part 3, division 5, subdivision 1 applies as if the amendment of section 893 under the *Mining and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2007* had commenced on 31 December 2004.

Part 7 **Transitional provisions for the Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2008, part 5**

940 **Quarter to which post-amended ss 593 and 594 first apply**

- (1) Post-amended sections 593 and 594 first apply in relation to petroleum produced, disposed of or stored in the quarter ending 30 September 2008.
- (2) In this section—

post-amended sections 593 and 594 means sections 593 and 594 as amended by the *Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2008*, part 5.

quarter see section 592A.

941 **Pre-amended Act applies to certain months**

- (1) Sections 593 and 594 of the pre-amended Act and the other provisions of the pre-amended Act continue to apply in relation to each month, ending before 1 July 2008, in which petroleum was produced, disposed of or stored.
- (2) In this section—

pre-amended Act means this Act as in force before the commencement of the *Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2008*, part 5.

Part 8 **Transitional provision for Mines and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 2008**

942 **Provision for amendment of s 877**

Section 877 applies as if the amendment of that section under the *Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005*, section 105, schedule had never been made.

Part 9 **Transitional provisions for Mines and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 2010**

943 **Definitions for pt 9**

In this part—

commencement, for sections 945 and 946, means the day this section commences.

previous, in relation to a stated provision that includes a number, means the provision as in force immediately before the commencement.

945 **Continuation of authorisation to carry out particular gas work—fuel gas refrigeration device**

- (1) This section applies to a gas work authorisation or an interim gas work authorisation—
 - (a) in force immediately before the commencement; and

- (b) under which an individual is authorised to carry out gas work in relation to a gas device or type of gas device that on the commencement is a fuel gas refrigeration device.
- (2) For this Act, the individual is taken to be authorised, under the gas work authorisation or interim gas work authorisation, to carry out gas work in relation to the fuel gas refrigeration device until the earliest of the following to happen—
- (a) the day that is 6 months after the commencement;
 - (b) the day the term of the gas work authorisation or interim gas work authorisation ends;
 - (c) the day the individual is issued with a gas work licence to carry out gas work in relation to the fuel gas refrigeration device.
- (3) For section 726(1) and (2), the individual is taken to hold a gas work licence to carry out gas work in relation to the fuel gas refrigeration device while the individual is authorised under subsection (2) to carry out the gas work.

946 Application of notice requirement under s 733

Section 733(2) does not apply to a person supplying a gas device until the day that is 3 months after the commencement.

Part 10 Transitional provisions for amendments under Geothermal Energy Act 2010

Division 1 Provisions about mineral (f) pilot tenures

947 Applications for particular petroleum leases

Section 363K applies to an ATP-related application, if—

- (a) the application was made before the commencement of this section; and
- (b) immediately before the commencement, the application has not been decided; and
- (c) the application includes land that is overlapping mineral (f) land or land in the area of MDLA 407.

Division 2 Provisions about land access and compensation

948 Land access code prevails over conditions

If a condition of a petroleum authority is inconsistent with a mandatory provision of the land access code, the mandatory provision prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

949 Existing compensation agreements other than for notifiable road uses

- (1) This section applies if immediately before the commencement of this section a compensation agreement under chapter 5, part 5 was in force.
- (2) On the commencement the agreement becomes a conduct and compensation agreement under chapter 5, part 5, division 1.

950 Existing entry notices

- (1) This section applies to an entry notice for the carrying out of an authorised activity for a petroleum authority if the notice complied with the entry notice requirements before the commencement of this section.
- (2) The notice continues, according to its terms, to be valid for the carrying out of the activity after the commencement even though the notice does not comply with all of the entry notice requirements from the commencement.
- (3) In this section—

entry notice requirements means the requirements under this Act relating to the giving of an entry notice.

951 References to geothermal tenure

Until the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010*, chapter 9, part 1 commences, a reference in this Act to a geothermal tenure is taken to be a reference to a geothermal exploration permit.

Schedule 1 Reviews and appeals

sections 817(1) and 823(3)

Table 1 Decisions subject to review

Section reference	Description of decision
387	Decision about whether proposed provision for safety management plan is reasonable
622	Refusal to issue gas quality approval
625(1) or (6)	Cancellation of gas quality approval
643(1)	Prohibition or imposition of conditions on use or operation of meter
646(2)	Decision to give revision notice about measurement scheme
646(3)(b)	Decision about period to comply with revision notice
681(2)	Decision to give revision notice about safety management plan
681(3)(b)	Decision about period to comply with revision notice
705C	Decision about whether proposed provision for principal hazard management plan for an operating plant is reasonable
728C	Refusal of application for gas work licence or authorisation
728C	Decision to impose a condition on, or to limit, a gas work licence or authorisation, other than a condition or limitation agreed to or requested by the applicant

Schedule 1 (continued)

Section reference	Description of decision
763	Decision to seize a thing
772(1)(c)	Fixing later period for return of seized thing
773(1)(c), (d) or (e)	Forfeiture of seized thing
780(2)	Decision to give compliance direction
780(2) and 781(1)	Decision about period to remedy contravention or avoid likely contravention the subject of compliance direction
783(2)	Decision to give dangerous situation direction
783(2) and 784(1)	Decision about period to take steps reasonably necessary to prevent, remove or minimise danger the subject of dangerous situation
798	Decision by chief inspector to take proposed noncompliance action for gas work licence or authorisation
849	Refusal of application to chief inspector to replace gas work licence or authorisation

Table 2 Decisions subject to appeal

Section reference	Description of decision	Appeal body
Authorities to prospect		
57	Refusal to approve proposed later work program	Land Court
62	Refusal to approve amendment to work program	Land Court

Schedule 1 (continued)

Section reference	Description of decision	Appeal body
84	Refusal to renew authority to prospect	Land Court
90	Refusal of application for declaration of potential commercial area	Land Court
93	Refusal of application to extend term of declaration of potential commercial area	Land Court
97	Decision to take proposed action under section 96 for authority to prospect	Land Court
Petroleum leases		
120	Decision not to grant a petroleum lease on ATP-related application	Land Court
147	Refusal to approve proposed later development plan	Land Court
148	Deferral of approval of later development plan	Land Court
164	Refusal to renew petroleum lease	Land Court
215	Decision that claimant does not own stored petroleum or prescribed storage gas	Land Court
Water monitoring authorities		
203	Decision to refuse amendment of water monitoring authority or to grant water monitoring authority subject to the applicant's written agreement to the Minister amending the authority in a stated way that the Minister considers appropriate	Land Court

Schedule 1 (continued)

Section reference	Description of decision	Appeal body
Provisions for existing Water Act bores		
260	Rejection of underground water impact report	Land Court
263	Requirement to lodge amended pre-closure report	Land Court
271	Requirement to lodge an amended review report	Land Court
Coordination arrangements		
242	Cancellation of coordination arrangement	Land Court
Licences		
410	Refusal to grant pipeline licence	Land Court
431	Decision to give works direction	Land Court
436(3)	Amendment of pipeline licence condition	Land Court
446	Refusal to grant petroleum facility licence	Land Court
473	Decision to cancel part 5 permission	Land Court
477	Refusal of licence amendment application	Land Court
482	Refusal to renew licence	Land Court
Decisions under chapter 5		
488	Decision to require security for petroleum authority other than security in the form and amount prescribed under section 488(2)	Land Court

Schedule 1 (continued)

Section reference	Description of decision	Appeal body
489	Decision to require increase in total security required to more than the prescribed amount under section 488(2) when the requirement is made	Land Court
517(1)	Decision to give road use direction	Land Court
527(1)	Imposition of condition on entry on public land, other than a condition agreed to or requested by the relevant petroleum authority holder	Land Court
573(1)	Refusal to approve dealing	Land Court
578	Refusal to approve surrender of petroleum authority	Land Court
578(3)	Decision to approve partial surrender of petroleum authority subject to the applicant's written agreement to the Minister amending the conditions applying to the rest of the authority in a stated way, if the applicant has not agreed in writing to the amendment	Land Court
587(2)	Decision to take action to ensure compliance with a requirement under this Act of a petroleum authority holder, other than action to which the holder has agreed	Land Court
Noncompliance action		
798	Decision to take noncompliance action for petroleum authority	Land Court
798	Decision to take proposed noncompliance action for gas work licence or authorisation	industrial court

Schedule 1 (continued)

Section reference	Description of decision	Appeal body
Other decisions		
592	Decision about required measurement or information	Land Court
604	Decision that an amount for petroleum royalty is payable and unpaid by petroleum producer	Land Court
849	Refusal of application to replace instrument if decision was made by the Minister	Land Court

Schedule 2 Dictionary

section 9

1923 Act means the *Petroleum Act 1923*.

1923 Act ATP means an authority to prospect under the 1923 Act.

1923 Act lease means a lease under the 1923 Act.

1923 Act petroleum tenure means a 1923 Act ATP or 1923 Act lease.

acceptable level, of risk, see section 700.

access agreement see section 503(2).

access land, for a petroleum authority, see section 502(3).

access rights see section 502(2).

additional relinquishment condition see section 62(6).

adjacent lease see section 113(a).

ADR see section 537A(2)(b).

advanced activity, for a provision about a petroleum authority, means an authorised activity for the authority other than a preliminary activity for the authority.

Examples—

- levelling of drilling pads and digging sumps
- earthworks associated with pipeline installation
- vegetation clear-felling
- constructing an exploration camp, concrete pad, sewage or water treatment facility or fuel dump
- geophysical surveying with physical clearing
- carrying out a seismic survey using explosives
- constructing a track or access road
- changing a fence line

affected party, for a meter, see section 660.

Schedule 2 (continued)

appeal body see section 823(2).

appeal period, for a decision, means the period provided for under section 824 for starting an appeal against the decision.

applicant for chapter 3A, part 2, see section 392AE(a).

application includes a tender in response to a call for tenders.

appropriately qualified, for the performance of a function or exercise of a power, includes having the qualifications, experience and competence to perform the function or exercise the power.

approved auditor means a person who, under chapter 6, part 4, holds an appointment as an approved auditor.

approved form means the form approved under section 858.

area—

- 1 The *area*, of a petroleum authority, is the land to which the authority is subject, as recorded in the petroleum register.
- 2 The *area*, of a coal or oil shale mining tenement, is the land to which the tenement is subject.
- 3 The *area* of a 1923 Act petroleum tenure is the land comprised in the tenure or to which the tenure is subject, as recorded in the petroleum register under that Act.

area pipeline licence see section 404(1)(a).

associated water, for a petroleum tenure, see section 185(4).

ATP-related application see section 117(3).

auditor-general means the Queensland Auditor-General under the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977*.

authorised activity see section 22.

authorised officer means a person who, under section 735, holds appointment as an authorised officer.

authority to prospect see section 18(1)(a).

available storage capacity, for a natural underground reservoir, see section 208.

Schedule 2 (continued)

block see section 29(1).

board of inquiry means a board of inquiry established under section 709.

bulk fuel gas storage facility means a site where fuel gas is stored in a tank and includes all activities relating to the storage and use of the fuel gas at the site, but does not include a site if—

- (a) the primary use of the fuel gas at the site is—
 - (i) the sale of fuel gas to a consumer at the site; or
 - (ii) the use of automotive LPG at the site; or
- (b) the volume of the tank storing the fuel gas is less than an amount prescribed under a regulation; or
- (c) the tank is connected to a gas device and the consumption of fuel gas by the gas device is less than an amount prescribed under a regulation.

call for tenders for—

- (a) chapter 2, part 1—see section 35(1); or
- (b) chapter 2, part 2—see section 127(1).

capability criteria for—

- (a) chapter 2, part 1—see section 43(2); or
- (b) chapter 2, part 2—see section 121(3).

chief inspector means the person who, under section 735, holds appointment as the chief inspector, petroleum and gas.

closing time, for a call for tenders—

- (a) for an authority to prospect—see section 35(2)(c); or
- (b) for a petroleum lease—see section 127(2)(c).

coal exploration tenement see section 301(1).

coal mining-CSG operating plant see section 671(3).

coal mining lease see section 301(2).

Coal Mining Safety and Health Act means the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*.

Schedule 2 (continued)

coal or oil shale development preference see section 314(3)(b).

coal or oil shale mining lease means a coal mining lease or oil shale mining lease under the Mineral Resources Act.

coal or oil shale mining tenement see section 303.

coal seam gas see section 299(1).

commercial viability report see section 230.

commissioner means the Commissioner for Mine Safety and Health under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*.

Commonwealth Native Title Act means the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwlth).

compensation application, for chapter 5, part 5, division 2, means an application made under section 537H(1).

compensation liability—

(a) for chapter 5, part 5, division 1—see section 532(2); or

(b) for chapter 5, part 5, division 2—see section 537F(2).

competency assessment see section 653(1).

competency assessment notice see section 653(1).

compliance direction see section 780(2).

conditions, of a petroleum authority, see section 20.

conduct and compensation agreement see section 533(1).

conduct and compensation agreement requirement see section 500(2).

construct, a structure, includes placing the structure.

consultation notice see section 465(1).

consultation period see section 465(2)(c).

consumer, of fuel gas, see section 619.

contiguous, in relation to land, means abutting, with at least 1 side in common.

controller, of a meter, see section 632.

Schedule 2 (continued)

converted petroleum tenure see section 872.

conviction includes a finding of guilt, or the acceptance of a plea of guilty, by a court, whether or not a conviction is recorded.

coordination arrangement means an arrangement under section 234 that, under section 236, has taken effect.

Coordinator-General's conditions, for a lease or licence or proposed lease or licence for a significant project, means the conditions for the lease or licence stated in the Coordinator-General's report for the project.

Coordinator-General's report, for a significant project, means the Coordinator-General's report under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* for the EIS for the project.

costs, incurred by the State, includes the cost of services that the State provides for itself.

CSG assessment criteria see section 305(1)(b).

CSG statement see section 305(1)(a).

current owner, of stored petroleum or a prescribed storage gas, see section 220(2).

dangerous situation means a situation relating to petroleum or fuel gas, a geothermal energy activity or a GHG stream in which an inspector reasonably believes an imminent risk of material harm to persons or property is likely if action is not taken to avoid, eliminate or minimise the risk.

dangerous situation direction see section 783(2).

data acquisition activities see section 176(1).

data acquisition authority see section 18(1)(c).

dealing see section 568.

deferral agreement see section 500A(e)(i).

development plan, for a petroleum lease, see section 24.

development plan criteria see section 141.

Schedule 2 (continued)

distribution pipeline means a pipeline that—

- (a) transports fuel gas as—
 - (i) part of a reticulation system, within a fuel gas market; or
 - (ii) a single point-to-point pipeline to a specific commercial or industrial facility; and
- (b) is not a transmission pipeline.

distribution system means a system (a **relevant system**) of distribution pipelines and meters and other equipment used for, or in connection with, the supply of fuel gas to more than 1 consumer within a fuel gas market, but does not include—

- (a) a relevant system at a multi-tenanted premises; or
- (b) pipelines connected from the exit point of a meter installed for a consumer's premises; or
- (c) appliances or equipment connected to—
 - (i) a relevant system mentioned in paragraph (a); or
 - (ii) pipelines mentioned in paragraph (b).

domestic purposes includes irrigating a garden, not exceeding 0.25 ha, being a garden cultivated for domestic use and not for the sale, barter or exchange of goods produced in the garden.

drill—

- 1 *drill* includes to bore.
- 2 *drill*, a water supply bore, includes excavating the bore.

election notice see section 537A(2).

eligible claimant, for compensation, see section 532(1).

eligible person see section 19.

enter a place includes the exercise of the rights in relation to the place under section 854.

entry notice—

- (a) for chapter 5, part 2, division 1, subdivision 1—see section 495(1); or

Schedule 2 (continued)

(b) for chapter 5, part 3—see section 526(2)(b).

Environmental Protection Act means the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

excluded land for—

- (a) an authority to prospect—means excluded land for the authority, decided under section 99; or
- (b) a petroleum lease—means excluded land for the lease, decided under section 169.

executive officer, of a corporation, means a person who is concerned with, or takes part in, its management, whether or not the person is a director or the person's position is given the name of executive officer.

executive safety manager, of an operating plant, see section 687.

existing user, of a natural underground reservoir, see section 205(1) and (6).

exploring, for petroleum, see section 14.

external review, for a decision, means a review of the decision by QCAT under the QCAT Act.

fee includes tax.

first authority, for chapter 5, part 4, see section 528(1).

formed road means any existing road or track on private or public land used, or that may be reasonably be capable of being used, to drive or ride motor vehicles.

fuel gas see section 11(2).

fuel gas refrigeration device means a device—

- (a) that is used or designed or intended for use for refrigeration; and
- (b) for which fuel gas is the refrigerant.

gas device means a gas device (type A) or a gas device (type B).

gas device (type A) see section 724(1).

Schedule 2 (continued)

gas device (type B) see section 724(3).

gas fitting means—

- (a) any component of a gas device (type A) or gas device (type B); or
- (b) a thing used, or designed or intended for use—
 - (i) with a gas device (type A) or gas device (type B); or
 - (ii) in the supply, distribution or consumption of fuel gas.

gasification or retorting product see section 10(2).

gas quality agreement see section 621(3).

gas quality approval see section 622(1).

gas related device means any of the following—

- (a) a gas device;
- (b) a gas fitting;
- (c) a gas system;
- (d) a container of fuel gas;
- (e) a device used to transfer fuel gas from one container to another.

gas system means a system that consists of installed gas devices, containers, fittings, flues or pipes, in any combination.

Examples of a gas system—

- 1 a system of interconnected domestic gas devices installed in a dwelling house
- 2 a gas device, and associated pipe work, added to an existing system
- 3 a gas-fired industrial boiler installation

gas work, for chapter 9, part 6, see section 725.

gas work authorisation see section 18(1)(i).

gas work licence see section 18(1)(h).

Schedule 2 (continued)

generic SMP see section 675A.

geothermal energy activity means geothermal exploration as defined under the *Geothermal Exploration Act 1994* or any activity related to the extraction or production of geothermal energy as defined under that Act.

geothermal exploration permit means a geothermal exploration permit under the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004*.

GHG means greenhouse gas.

GHG assessment criteria, for chapter 3A, see section 392AF(1)(b).

GHG authority see the GHG storage Act, section 18(3).

GHG coordination arrangement see the GHG storage Act, section 186(3).

GHG lease see the GHG storage Act, section 18(1)(b).

GHG permit see the GHG storage Act, section 18(1)(a).

GHG public interest, for chapter 3A, see section 392AC.

GHG statement, for chapter 3A, see section 392AF(1)(a).

GHG storage Act see section 3A(1).

GHG storage activity see the GHG storage Act, section 23.

GHG stream see the GHG storage Act, section 12.

GHG stream storage see the GHG storage Act, section 14.

GHG tenure see the GHG storage Act, section 18(2).

holder—

- (a) of a petroleum authority, other than the following, means each person recorded as its holder in the petroleum register—
 - (i) a data acquisition authority;
 - (ii) a water monitoring authority that relates to only 1 petroleum tenure; or

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (b) of a data acquisition authority, means the person mentioned in section 182; or
- (c) of a water monitoring authority, means the person who is its holder as provided for under section 201; or
- (d) of a gas work licence or authorisation, means each person recorded as its holder in the register the chief inspector keeps under section 730.

holder submissions see section 392AI(1).

incident means an event that—

- (a) involves, or involves a level of risk of, death of, or injury to, a person or damage to property that is not at an acceptable level; and
- (b) happens—
 - (i) at an operating plant, for any reason; or
 - (ii) at another place and is associated with a gas related device or the presence, or perceived likely presence, of petroleum or fuel gas or a prescribed storage gas.

incidental coal seam gas see section 299(2).

independent viability assessment see section 232(2).

information-giver, for chapter 3, part 8, see section 390(1).

information notice, for a decision, means a notice stating each of the following—

- (a) the decision, and the reasons for it;
- (b) all rights of review or appeal under this Act;
- (c) the period in which any review or appeal under this Act must be started;
- (d) how rights of review or appeal under this Act are to be exercised;
- (e) that a stay of a decision the subject of review or appeal under this Act may be applied for under this Act.

Schedule 2 (continued)

initial development plan requirements see section 137.

initial work program requirements see section 46.

inspector means a person who under section 735 holds appointment as an inspector, petroleum and gas, or who is—

- (a) the chief inspector; or
- (b) the deputy chief inspector, petroleum and gas.

interfere with includes tamper with.

internal review application, for chapter 12, see section 817(1).

internal review decision see section 820(1)(b).

land includes—

- (a) land covered by Queensland waters; and
- (b) subterranean land.

land access code see section 24A.

later development plan requirements see section 142.

later work program requirements see section 50.

licence see section 18(4).

licensed water bore driller means an individual who holds a water bore driller's licence under the Water Act.

low impact, for an activity or infrastructure, means the activity or infrastructure—

- (a) is of low impact on the environment; and
- (b) is of low impact for land disturbance; and
- (c) does not adversely affect the carrying out of an authorised activity, or is not likely to adversely affect the carrying out of a future authorised activity, under a mineral (f) tenure.

LPG see section 11(1).

LPG delivery network—

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (a) means the supply of LPG in fuel gas containers that are owned or provided (other than by being sold) by a person (a **product supplier**) to a consumer or another person in the business of distributing LPG; and
- (b) includes any part of the supply, or an activity incidental to the supply, that is carried out by an agent of the product supplier.

Examples of an LPG delivery network—

- the filling, storing or delivery of cylinders of LPG to a consumer or to a distributor
- the bulk delivery of LPG to a container
- the maintenance of cylinders and storage equipment used for the supply of LPG

mandatory condition, of a petroleum authority, see section 20(2).

mandatory provision, of the land access code, means a provision of that code that the code requires compliance with.

MDLA 407 see section 363B(2).

measurement, of petroleum or fuel gas, see section 634.

measurement scheme, for a meter, see section 633.

meter see section 631.

mineral (f) see the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*, section 6(2)(f).

mineral (f) pilot tenure see section 363B(1).

mineral (f) production tenure see section 363A.

mineral (f) tenure see section 363A.

mineral hydrocarbon mining lease see the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*, section 739.

Mineral Resources Act means the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*.

minimum negotiation period see section 536(2)(a).

mining interest means—

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (a) a mining tenement under the Mineral Resources Act; or
- (b) a tenure held from the State under another Act about mining, under which tenure the holder is authorised to carry out mining under the Mineral Resources Act or a related mineral or energy resources activity.

mining lease see Mineral Resources Act, schedule.

mining lease application period see section 323(2).

mining tenement means a mining tenement under the Mineral Resources Act.

multi-tenanted premises means a premises, or part of a premises, prescribed under a regulation, where fuel gas is supplied to a number of persons at separate locations within the premises under a contract or other arrangement.

Example of multi-tenanted premises—

a shopping centre containing a number of individual shops

natural underground reservoir see section 13.

negotiation notice—

- (a) for chapter 2, part 6, division 3, subdivision 4—see section 221(2)(a); or
- (b) for chapter 5, part 5, division 1, subdivision 4—see section 535(1).

new authorities, for an application to divide an authority to prospect, see section 103(1).

new leases, for an application to divide a petroleum lease, see section 171(1).

noncompliance action means action of a type mentioned in section 790.

non-owner lease see section 221(1).

notice means a written notice.

notice of claim see section 213(1).

notifiable road use, for a petroleum authority, see section 515(1).

Schedule 2 (continued)

occupier—

- 1 Other than for chapters 9 and 10, a person is the *occupier* of a place only if—
 - (i) the person, under an Act, or, for freehold land, a lease registered under the *Land Title Act 1994*, has a right to occupy the place, other than under a mining interest, petroleum authority, 1923 Act petroleum tenure, GHG authority or geothermal tenure; or
 - (ii) an occupier under subparagraph (i) has given the person the right to occupy the place.
- 2 For chapters 9 and 10, an *occupier* of a place includes any one who reasonably appears to be, claims to be or acts as if he or she is, the occupier of the place.

official means the Minister, the chief executive, the commissioner, an inspector or an authorised officer.

oil shale see section 300.

oil shale exploration tenement see section 302(1).

oil shale mining lease see section 302(2).

old lease, for chapter 2, part 6, division 3, see section 212(1)(a).

on, land or another place, includes across, attached to, in, under or over the land or place.

operate, a pipeline or petroleum facility—

- 1 *Operate*, a pipeline or petroleum facility, includes use, inspect, test, maintain, repair, alter, add to and replace the pipeline or facility.
- 2 For paragraph 1, using a pipeline includes using it to transport—
 - (a) generally—petroleum or fuel gas; and
 - (b) if, under section 402, the right to operate the pipeline is extended to include another substance—the other substance.

Schedule 2 (continued)

operating plant see section 670.

operator, of an operating plant, see section 673.

original authority, for an application to divide an authority to prospect, see section 103(1).

original decision see section 817(1).

original lease, for an application to divide a petroleum lease, see section 171(1).

original notional sub-blocks of an authority to prospect—

1 The *original notional sub-blocks*, of an authority to prospect, are the sub-blocks stated in the instrument for the authority at the following time—

(a) if the authority was granted before 31 December 2004—immediately after its first renewal after that day;

(b) if the authority was granted after 31 December 2004—when it was originally granted.

2 However, the *original notional sub-blocks* do not include any sub-block stated in the instrument that is completely within the area of a petroleum lease or 1923 Act lease.

3 For item 1, if the instrument—

(a) states that the authority's area includes land within a block; but

(b) does not include or exclude any particular sub-block within that block;

the reference to the block is a reference to all sub-blocks within the block, other than any sub-block that is completely within the area of another petroleum tenure or a 1923 Act petroleum tenure.

overlapping ATP land, for a petroleum lease, see section 341(2)(c).

overlapping authority priority see section 392AI(3)(b)(i).

overlapping GHG authority see section 392AB.

Schedule 2 (continued)

overlapping GHG lease application period see section 392AO(2).

overlapping mineral (f) land see section 363B(1).

owner—

- 1 An *owner*, of land, means each person as follows in relation to the land—
- (a) for freehold land—a registered owner;
 - (b) for land for which a person is, or will on performing conditions, be entitled to a deed of grant in fee simple—the person;
 - (c) if an estate in fee simple of land is being purchased from the State—the purchaser;
 - (d) for a public road—the public road authority for the road;
 - (e) for land that is busway land, light rail land, rail corridor land or a cane railway or other railway—the public land authority for the land;
 - (f) for required land under the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*, section 436—the chief executive of the department in which that Act is administered;
 - (g) for a forest entitlement area, State forest or timber reserve under the *Forestry Act 1959*—the chief executive of the department in which that Act is administered;
 - (h) for a conservation park or resources reserve under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (the *NCA*) for which there are trustees—
 - (A) if, under the *NCA*, the park or reserve has trustees whose powers are not restricted—the trustees; or
 - (B) otherwise—the chief executive of the department in which the *NCA* is administered;

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (i) for DOGIT land under the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991* or the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991*—a trustee for the land;
- (j) for land held under a lease under the *Local Government (Aboriginal Lands) Act 1978*, section 3—a relevant local government;
- (k) for Torres Strait Islander land under the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991* that is taken to be a reserve because of section 84(2) or 84(4)(b) of that Act—each grantee of the land;
- (l) for land under the *Land Act 1994* for which there are trustees—a trustee;
- (m) for transport land under the *Transport Planning and Coordination Act 1994*—the chief executive of the department in which that Act is administered;
- (n) for land vested in the Minister administering the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*—that Minister;
- (o) for land vested in the Queensland Housing Commission or another Minister or a chief executive responsible for constructing public buildings—the Minister administering the relevant Act;
- (p) for land held from the State under another Act under an interest less than fee simple (other than occupation rights under a permit under the *Land Act 1994*)—the person who holds the interest;
- (q) for any of the following land under the NCA—the State—
 - (i) a national park;
 - (ii) a national park (Aboriginal land);
 - (iii) a national park (scientific);
 - (iv) a national park (Torres Strait Islander land);
 - (v) a national park (recovery);

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (vi) a forest reserve.
- 2 Also, a mortgagee of land is the *owner* of land if—
- (a) the mortgagee is acting as mortgagee in possession of the land and has the exclusive management and control of the land; or
 - (b) the mortgagee, or a person appointed by the mortgagee, is in possession of the land and has the exclusive management and control of the land.
- 3 The *owner*, of a thing that has been seized under this Act, includes a person who would be entitled to possession of the thing had it not been seized.
- 4 If land or another thing has more than 1 owner, a reference in this Act to the owner of the land or thing is a reference to each of its owners.

ownership relinquishment notice see section 223(3)(b).

part 5 permission see section 463.

parties—

- (a) for chapter 5, part 5, division 1, subdivision 4—see section 536(1); or
- (b) for chapter 10, part 1AA—see section 734C.

petroleum see section 10.

petroleum authority see section 18(2).

petroleum discovery includes a discovery of a natural underground reservoir that has, or is likely to have, commercial storage potential under this Act.

petroleum facility see section 17.

petroleum facility land, for a petroleum facility licence, see section 439.

petroleum facility licence see section 18(1)(g).

petroleum lease see section 18(1)(b).

petroleum producer includes—

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (a) for petroleum produced under this Act—the petroleum tenure holder who produces it or for whom it is produced; or
- (b) for petroleum produced under the 1923 Act—the authority to prospect holder or petroleum lease holder under that Act who produces it or for whom it is produced; or
- (c) for petroleum that is incidental coal seam gas mined under the Mineral Resources Act, section 318CM—the coal or oil shale mining lease holder who mines it or for whom it is mined; or
- (d) for petroleum that is coal seam gas mined under a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease—the coal or oil shale mining lease holder who mines it or for whom it is mined.

petroleum register means the register the chief executive keeps under section 564.

petroleum royalty means petroleum royalty imposed under section 590.

petroleum tenure see section 18(3).

petroleum well—

- 1 A *petroleum well* is a hole in the ground made or being made by drilling, boring or any other means—
 - (a) to explore for or produce petroleum; or
 - (b) to inject petroleum or a prescribed storage gas into a natural underground reservoir; or
 - (c) through which petroleum or a prescribed storage gas may be produced.
- 2 For item 1, a prescribed storage gas is produced when it is recovered or released to ground level from a natural underground reservoir in which it has been contained or from which it is extracted.
- 3 A *petroleum well* includes the casing for the well and any wellhead for the well attached to it.

Schedule 2 (continued)

- 4 To remove any doubt, it is declared that a *petroleum well* does not include any of the following—
- (a) a water observation bore;
 - (b) a water supply bore;
 - (c) an existing Water Act bore;
 - (d) a seismic shot hole or shallow hole drilled to work out a geological structure.

pipeline see section 16.

pipeline land, for a pipeline licence, see section 399.

pipeline licence see section 18(1)(f).

place includes land.

plan period, for a development plan, means the period for which the plan applies.

point-to-point pipeline licence see section 404(1)(b).

potential commercial area, for an authority to prospect, means an area declared under section 90 to be a potential commercial area for the authority.

pre-closure report see section 261(1).

preference decision see section 319(2).

preliminary activity—

- 1 A *preliminary activity*, for a provision about a petroleum authority, means an authorised activity for the permit or licence that will have no impact, or only a minor impact, on the business or land use activities of any owner or occupier of the land on which the activity is to be carried out.

Examples—

- walking the area of the permit or licence
- driving along an existing road or track in the area
- taking soil or water samples
- geophysical surveying not involving site preparation

Schedule 2 (continued)

- aerial, electrical or environmental surveying
- survey pegging

2 However, the following are not preliminary activities—

- (a) an authorised activity carried out on land that—
- (i) is less than 100ha; and
 - (ii) is being used for intensive farming or broadacre agriculture;

Examples—

- land used for dryland or irrigated cropping, plantation forestry or horticulture
 - a dairy, cattle or sheep feedlot, piggery or poultry farm
- (b) an authorised activity carried out within 600m of a school or an occupied residence;
- (c) an authorised activity that affects the lawful carrying out of an organic or bio-organic farming system.

prescribed incidents see section 706(1)(a).

prescribed odour, for fuel gas, see section 627.

prescribed quality, for fuel gas, see section 620(1).

prescribed storage gas see section 12.

prevent includes each of the following—

- (a) hinder;
- (b) obstruct.

principal hazard management plan, for an operating plant, means the principal hazard management plan for the plant, as made under section 705A.

private land—

- 1 *Private land* is—
- (a) freehold land; or

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (b) an interest in land less than fee simple held from the State under another Act.
- 2 However, land is not private land to the extent of an interest in any of the following relating to the land—
- (a) a mining interest;
 - (b) a petroleum authority or 1923 Act petroleum tenure;
 - (c) a GHG authority;
 - (d) a geothermal tenure;
 - (e) an occupation right under a permit under the *Land Act 1994*.
- 3 Also, land owned by a public land authority is not private land.

produced, for petroleum, see section 15.

production commencement day, for a petroleum lease, see section 123(3)(c).

program period, for a work program, means the period for which the program applies.

proposed user, of a natural underground reservoir, see section 209(1).

provision of an authority under this Act, means a provision of the authority, as defined under section 21.

public land means land other than—

- (a) private land; or
- (b) to the extent an interest in any of the following relates to the land—
 - (i) a mining interest;
 - (ii) a petroleum authority or 1923 Act petroleum tenure;
 - (iii) a GHG authority;
 - (iv) a geothermal tenure;

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (v) an occupation right under a permit under the *Land Act 1994*.

public land authority means—

- (a) for a public road—the road authority for the road; or
- (b) if a local government or other authority is, under an Act, charged with the control of the land—the local government or other authority; or
- (c) otherwise—the chief executive of the department administering the Act under which entry to the land is administered.

public road means an area of land that—

- (a) is open to, or used by, the public; and
- (b) is developed for, or has as one of its main uses—
- (i) the driving or riding of motor vehicles; or
- (ii) pedestrian traffic; and
- (c) is controlled by a public road authority.

Examples of an area of land that may be included in a road—

- a bridge, culvert, ford, tunnel or viaduct
- a pedestrian or bicycle path

public road authority, for a public road, means—

- (a) for a State-controlled road—the chief executive of the department in which the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* is administered; or
- (b) for another public road—the local government having the control of the road.

publish, a notice, means to publish it in any of the following ways—

- (a) in a journal published by the department or under the Minister's authority;
- (b) in another publication considered appropriate by—
- (i) generally—the Minister; or

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (ii) if the subject of the notice relates to safety—the chief inspector;
- (c) on the department’s web site on the internet;
- (d) by placing it on a public notice board, established and maintained by the department, at—
 - (i) the department’s head office; and
 - (ii) other places the chief executive considers appropriate.

QCAT information notice means a notice complying with the QCAT Act, section 157(2).

quarter, for chapter 6, part 2, see section 592A.

reasonably believes means to believe on grounds that are reasonable in the circumstances.

reasonably suspects means to suspect on grounds that are reasonable in the circumstances.

recipient, for chapter 3, part 8, see section 390(1).

relevant arrangement, for chapter 2, part 2, see section 121(2)(b).

relevant departmental office, for an application or document that is required to be made, given or lodged under this Act, means—

- (a) the office of the department at which the relevant approved form provides that the application or document must be made, given or lodged; or
- (b) if the relevant approved form does not make provision as mentioned in paragraph (a) or if there is no relevant approved form—the office of the department as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
- (c) if paragraph (b) applies and no office is gazetted as mentioned in paragraph (b)—the office of the chief executive.

relevant environmental authority, for a petroleum authority, means an environmental authority under the Environmental

Schedule 2 (continued)

Protection Act granted for all of the authorised activities for the petroleum authority that are environmentally relevant activities under the Environmental Protection Act.

relevant environmental condition, for a petroleum authority, means a condition of any relevant environmental authority for the petroleum authority.

relevant land, for a petroleum lease application, means the land the subject of the application.

relevant lease, for a coordination arrangement or proposed coordination arrangement, see section 234(1).

relevant official, for noncompliance action, see section 789(2).

relevant owner or occupier, for a provision about entry notices, means the owner or occupier to whom the entry notice is to be given, or would be given, other than for an exemption from the requirement to give an entry notice.

relinquishment condition—

- 1 Generally, the *relinquishment condition*, for an authority to prospect is the *relinquishment condition* under section 65(1).
- 2 However if chapter 15, part 3, division 2 applies, and the authority is an authority to which section 878 or 879 applies, the *relinquishment condition* for the authority is the *relinquishment condition* under that section.
- 3 The *relinquishment condition* for a lease is the *relinquishment condition* under section 329(2).

remedial powers see section 580(2).

replacement tenure see section 908.

report means a written report.

reprisal see section 708C.

required information, for chapter 5, part 7, division 1, subdivision 3, see section 549.

requirements for grant see section 120(1).

Schedule 2 (continued)

resource management decision see section 392AK.

reviewer see section 817(3).

road use direction see section 517(1).

royalty information see section 594(4).

royalty return see section 594(3).

safety management plan—

- 1 A *safety management plan*, for an operating plant, is the plan made under section 674 as in force from time to time.
- 2 If the plant has stages, a reference to the term includes each safety management plan developed for each stage.

safety requirements see section 669.

satisfies, the capability criteria, for—

- (a) chapter 2, part 1—see section 43(3); or
- (b) chapter 2, part 2—see section 121(4).

second authority, for chapter 5, part 4, see section 528(1).

security includes bond, deposit of an amount as security, guarantee, indemnity or other surety, insurance, mortgage and undertaking.

service provider, for an affected party, see section 661.

service provider test, for a meter, see section 662(1).

services of the State has the same meaning that the term has in relation to the State of Queensland under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cwlth), section 183(1).

share, of a petroleum authority, means any interest held by a person as a holder of the authority in all of the area of the authority.

significant project means a project declared under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*, section 26, to be a significant project.

Schedule 2 (continued)

site safety manager means a site safety manager appointed under section 692 or any operator mentioned in section 694.

special criteria for—

- (a) chapter 2, part 1—see section 35(2)(e)(iii); or
- (b) chapter 2, part 2—see section 127(2)(e)(iii).

specific purpose mining lease means a mining lease that, under the Mineral Resources Act, section 234(1)(b), is granted for a purpose other than mining.

stage, of an operating plant, see section 672.

standard operating procedures, for an operating plant, is a documented way of working, or an arrangement of facilities, at the plant to achieve an acceptable level of risk.

State-controlled road see *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*, schedule 6.

stock purposes means watering stock of a number that would normally be depastured on the land on which the water is, or is to be, used.

storage agreement see section 205(1) and (5).

storage capacity, of a natural underground reservoir, means the measure of its potential to store petroleum or a prescribed storage gas.

structure means anything built or constructed, whether or not attached to land.

sub-block see section 29(2).

submission means a written submission.

submission period, for chapter 3, part 2, see section 314(2).

supply—

- 1 *Supply* means to supply by way of business.
- 2 The term includes each of the following—
 - (a) give or sell;
 - (b) agree, attempt or offer to give or sell;

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (c) advertise to give or sell;
- (d) cause or permit to be given or sold;
- (e) give away or swap.

survey licence see section 18(1)(e).

takeover condition see section 413(1).

tank means a pressure vessel to which AS 1210 ‘Pressure vessels’ (1997) applies.

the public interest means a consideration of each of the following—

- (a) government policy;
- (b) value of commodity production (including time value);
- (c) employment creation;
- (d) total return to the State and to Australia (including royalty and rent), assessed on both a direct and indirect basis, so that, for example, downstream value adding is included;
- (e) social impacts;
- (f) the overall economic benefit for the State, or a part of the State, in the short and long term;
- (g) impacts on aesthetic, amenity, cultural or environmental values.

tolerance for error, for a meter, see section 635.

transfer, of a petroleum well, water observation bore or water supply bore, see section 285(2).

transmission pipeline means a pipeline operated, or to be operated, for the primary purpose of conveying petroleum directly to a market after it has been processed, whether or not it is subsequently processed or reprocessed.

underground gasification activity means an activity on a coal or oil shale mining tenement or a petroleum authority relating to—

Schedule 2 (continued)

- (a) the exploration for, and testing of, coal or oil shale to be used for the production of mineral (f); or
- (b) the production, processing, refining, storage or transportation of mineral (f).

underground water means water that occurs naturally in, or is introduced artificially into, an aquifer, whether or not it would, if tapped by a bore, flow naturally to the surface.

underground water obligations, of a petroleum tenure holder, means—

- (a) the holder's underground water obligations under the Water Act, chapter 3; and
- (b) any other obligation under the Water Act, chapter 3 with which the holder is required to comply, if failure to comply with the obligation is an offence against that Act.

Examples of another obligation under the Water Act, chapter 3 with which the holder may be required to comply—

- giving an underground water impact report under section 370 of that Act
- preparing and complying with a baseline assessment plan under sections 397 and 400 of that Act

underground water rights, for a petroleum tenure, see section 185(2)(a).

unpaid petroleum royalty interest means interest payable under section 602.

usual relinquishment see section 66(3).

validation test, for a meter, see section 666(2).

waiver of entry notice—

- (a) for chapter 5, part 2—means a waiver of entry notice mentioned in section 497 that complies with section 498(1); or
- (b) for chapter 5, part 3—see section 526(3).

Water Act means the *Water Act 2000*.

Schedule 2 (continued)

Water Act regulator means the chief executive of the department that administers the Water Act.

water licence means a licence under the Water Act.

water monitoring authority see section 18(1)(d).

water observation bore—

- 1 A *water observation bore* is a bore to monitor water levels.
- 2 A reference to a water observation bore includes its casing, wellhead and any other works constructed in connection with the bore.

water supply bore means—

- (a) a water supply bore under section 185(7); or
- (b) a petroleum well that, under chapter 2, part 10, division 2, has been converted to a water supply bore.

wellhead means the casing head, and includes any casing hanger or spool, or tubing hanger, and any flow control equipment up to and including the wing valves.

worker, at a place, means a person who is employed or contracted to carry out work at the place, whether or not the work is gas work.

work program, for an authority to prospect, see section 23.

work program criteria see section 49(2).

works direction see section 431(2).

Endnotes

1 Index to endnotes

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2 Date to which amendments incorporated

This is the reprint date mentioned in the Reprints Act 1992, section 5(c). Accordingly, this reprint includes all amendments that commenced operation on or before 1 January 2011. Future amendments of the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 may be made in accordance with this reprint under the Reprints Act 1992, section 49.

3 Key

Key to abbreviations in list of legislation and annotations

Key	Explanation	Key	Explanation
AIA	= Acts Interpretation Act 1954	(prev)	= previously
amd	= amended	proc	= proclamation
amdt	= amendment	prov	= provision
ch	= chapter	pt	= part
def	= definition	pubd	= published
div	= division	R[X]	= Reprint No.[X]
exp	= expires/expired	RA	= Reprints Act 1992
gaz	= gazette	reloc	= relocated
hdg	= heading	renum	= renumbered
ins	= inserted	rep	= repealed
lap	= lapsed	(retro)	= retrospectively
notfd	= notified	rv	= revised edition
num	= numbered	s	= section
o in c	= order in council	sch	= schedule
om	= omitted	sdiv	= subdivision
orig	= original	SIA	= Statutory Instruments Act 1992
p	= page	SIR	= Statutory Instruments Regulation 2002
para	= paragraph	SL	= subordinate legislation
prec	= preceding	sub	= substituted
pres	= present	unnum	= unnumbered
prev	= previous		

4 Table of reprints

Reprints are issued for both future and past effective dates. For the most up-to-date table of reprints, see the reprint with the latest effective date.

If a reprint number includes a letter of the alphabet, the reprint was released in unauthorised, electronic form only.

Reprint No.	Amendments included	Effective	Notes
1 rv	2004 Act No. 26 (amd 2004 No. 33)	31 December 2004	Revision notice issued for R1 and R2
1A rv	2005 Act No. 3	3 March 2005	R1A rv withdrawn, see R2 rv
2 rv	—	3 March 2005	
2A rv	2005 Act No. 53	18 November 2005	
2B rv	2005 Act No. 57	28 November 2005	
2C rv	2005 Act No. 68	6 February 2006	
2D rv	2006 Act No. 9	15 March 2006	
2E rv	2006 Act No. 31	1 June 2006	
2F rv	2006 Act No. 39	30 October 2006	
3	2006 Act No. 60	1 July 2007	
3A	2007 Act No. 39	21 September 2007	
3B	2007 Act No. 46	14 December 2007	
3C rv	2007 Act No. 46	1 January 2008	prov exp 31 December 2007
3D rv	2007 Act No. 46	17 March 2008	
3E rv	2008 Act No. 33	1 July 2008	

Reprint No.	Amendments included	Effective	Notes
4	2008 Act No. 39	1 August 2008	
4A	2008 Act No. 56	5 November 2008	
4B	2008 Act No. 75	11 December 2008	
4C	2009 Act No. 3	23 February 2009	
4D	2009 Act No. 9	1 July 2009	
	2009 Act No. 16		
4E	2009 Act No. 16	4 September 2009	
4F	2008 Act No. 56	6 November 2009	
4G	2009 Act No. 24	1 December 2009	
4H	2009 Act No. 36	18 December 2009	
4I	2010 Act No. 17	21 April 2010	
4J	2009 Act No. 17	1 July 2010	
	2009 Act No. 50		
4K	2010 Act No. 31	1 September 2010	
4L	2010 Act No. 31	29 October 2010	
4M	2010 Act No. 53	1 December 2010	
4N	2010 Act No. 52	10 December 2010	
4O	2010 Act No. 38	1 January 2011	

5 Tables in earlier reprints

Name of table	Reprint No.
Corrected minor errors	1, 2, 4

6 List of legislation

Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 No. 25

date of assent 12 October 2004

ss 1–2, 968 (to the extent it ins pt 19 div 6 sdivs 1–2 for the Mineral Resources Act 1989) commenced on date of assent (see s 2(1))

remaining provisions commenced 31 December 2004 (2004 SL No. 308)

amending legislation—

Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2004 No. 26 ss 1–2(1), pt 3, s 69(2) sch (this Act is amended, see amending legislation below)

date of assent 12 October 2004

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 13 October 2004 (see s 2(1))

amending legislation—

Natural Resources Legislation Amendment Act 2004 No. 33 ss 1, 21A, 21C–21D (amends 2004 No. 26 above)

date of assent 27 October 2004

commenced on date of assent

Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005 No. 3 s 1, pt 4, s 105 sch

date of assent 3 March 2005
 commenced on date of assent

Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005 No. 53 ss 1, 159 sch

date of assent 18 November 2005
 commenced on date of assent

State Development and Public Works Organisation and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005 No. 57 pts 1–2

date of assent 28 November 2005
 commenced on date of assent

Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005 No. 68 pt 1, s 150 sch

date of assent 8 December 2005
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent
 remaining provisions commenced 6 February 2006 (2006 SL No. 6)

Audit Legislation Amendment Act 2006 No. 9 pts 1, 14

date of assent 15 March 2006
 commenced on date of assent

Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2006 No. 31 s 1, pt 4

date of assent 1 June 2006
 commenced on date of assent

Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 No. 39 ss 1, 2(3), 512(1) sch 1

date of assent 11 August 2006
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent
 remaining provisions commenced 30 October 2006 (2006 SL No. 247)

Electricity and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2006 No. 60 ss 1–2, 177 sch

date of assent 7 December 2006
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent (see s 2)
 remaining provisions commenced 1 July 2007 (2007 SL No. 15)

Land Court and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2007 No. 39 ss 1–2, 41 sch

date of assent 29 August 2007
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent
 remaining provisions commenced 21 September 2007 (2007 SL No. 236)

Mining and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2007 No. 46 pts 1, 9, s 241 sch

date of assent 25 October 2007
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent
 s 232 commenced 1 January 2008 (2007 SL No. 313) (amdt could not be given effect)
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 pt 9 hdg, ss 160, 208–231, 236–237 commenced 1 January 2008 (2007 SL No. 313)
 remaining provisions commenced 17 March 2008 (2007 SL No. 313)

Clean Energy Act 2008 No. 33 ss 1–2, pt 15, s 125 sch 1

date of assent 21 May 2008

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 July 2008 (2008 SL No. 191)

Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2008 No. 39 ss 1, 2(3), pt 5

date of assent 11 June 2008

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 August 2008 (see s 2(3))

Mines and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 2008 No. 56 pts 1, 8, s 92 sch

date of assent 5 November 2008

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ss 108–109 commenced 6 November 2009 (automatic commencement under AIA s 15DA(2))

remaining provisions commenced on date of assent

Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 2008 No. 75 s 1, pt 12

date of assent 11 December 2008

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Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2009 No. 3 s 1, ch 9 pt 20

date of assent 23 February 2009

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Financial Accountability Act 2009 No. 9 ss 1, 2(2), 136 sch 1

date of assent 28 May 2009

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Mines and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 2009 No. 16 ss 1, 2(2), pt 10

date of assent 12 June 2009

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date of assent 12 June 2009

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date of assent 26 June 2009

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Sustainable Planning Act 2009 No. 36 ss 1–2, 872 sch 2

date of assent 22 September 2009

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remaining provisions commenced 18 December 2009 (2009 SL No. 281)

Trade Measurement Legislation Repeal Act 2009 No. 50 ss 1–2, 18 sch

date of assent 19 November 2009

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date of assent 21 April 2010

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

ss 82, 89 (to the extent it ins s 944) not yet proclaimed into force (see s 2(1))

remaining provisions commenced on date of assent

Geothermal Energy Act 2010 No. 31 ss 1, 2(1), (2)(b)–(c), ch 10 pt 1 div 6, pt 2 div 4, pt 3 div 8, ss 427, 478, 544, sch 2 pts 1–2, 4

date of assent 1 September 2010

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s 802 amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2009 No. 3 s 582

Duty to avoid interference in carrying out authorised activities

s 804 amd 2004 No. 26 s 233

Obstruction of petroleum authority holder

s 805 amd 2004 No. 26 ss 234, 69(2) sch

Restriction on building on pipeline land

s 807 amd 2004 No. 26 s 235

Restriction on changing surface of pipeline land for a pipeline licence

prov hdg amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch
s 808 amd 2004 No. 26 ss 236, 69(2) sch

Unlawful taking of petroleum or fuel gas prohibited

s 809 amd 2004 No. 26 s 237

Restriction on building on petroleum facility land

s 810 amd 2004 No. 26 s 238

Obstruction of inspector or authorised officer

s 811 amd 2004 No. 26 s 239

Pretending to be inspector or authorised officer

s 812 amd 2004 No. 26 s 240

False or misleading information

s 813 amd 2004 No. 26 s 241

Fuel gas suppliers must not use other supplier's containers

s 815 prev s 815 amd 2007 No. 46 s 232 (amdt could not be given effect)
 exp 31 December 2007 (see s 815(3))
 pres s 815 ins 2008 No. 33 s 123

CHAPTER 12—REVIEWS AND APPEALS**Who may apply for internal review****prov hdg** amd 2009 No. 24 s 665(1)**s 817** amd 2009 No. 24 s 665(2)–(4)**Requirements for making application****s 818** amd 2009 No. 24 s 666**Stay of operation of original decision****s 819** amd 2009 No. 24 s 667**Internal review decision****prov hdg** amd 2009 No. 24 s 668(1)**s 820** amd 2009 No. 24 s 668(2)–(4)**Internal review procedure****prov hdg** amd 2009 No. 24 s 669(1)**s 821** amd 2009 No. 24 s 669(2)**Notice of internal review decision****prov hdg** amd 2009 No. 24 s 670(1)**s 822** amd 2009 No. 24 s 670(2)–(4)**PART 2—APPEALS AND EXTERNAL REVIEW****pt hdg** amd 2009 No. 24 s 671**Who may appeal or apply for external review****prov hdg** amd 2009 No. 24 s 672(1)**s 823** amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch; 2007 No. 39 s 41 sch; 2009 No. 24 s 672(2)–(3)**Period to appeal****s 824** amd 2009 No. 24 s 673**Restriction on Land Court’s powers for decision not to grant petroleum lease****prov hdg** amd 2007 No. 39 s 41 sch**s 829** amd 2007 No. 39 s 41 sch**Other evidentiary aids****s 834** amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch**Offences under Act are summary****s 837** amd 2009 No. 16 s 82**Additional information may be required about application****s 843** amd 2004 No. 26 s s 242, 69(2) sch; 2009 No. 16 s 83**Amending applications****s 844** amd 2008 No. 56 s 110**Withdrawal of application****s 845** amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch**Replacement of instrument for authority****prov hdg** amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch**s 849** amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

Additional information about reports and other matters

s 853 amd 2004 No. 26 s 243

Protection from liability for particular persons

s 856 amd 2009 No. 16 s 84

Approved forms

s 858 amd 2004 No. 26 s 244

Practice manual

s 858A ins 2007 No. 46 s 233

sub 2010 No. 31 s 434

CHAPTER 15—REPEAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**Licences under repealed regulation that become gas work licences**

prov hdg amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

s 864 amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

Licences under repealed regulation that become gas work authorisations

prov hdg amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

s 865 amd 2004 No. 26 s 245

Gas examiners

s 868 prov hdg amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

Gas examiners' requirements under repealed Act, s 8

s 869 amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

PART 3—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO 1923 ACT

pt hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Division 1—Preliminary

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Definitions for pt 3

s 872 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

def "relevant 1923 Act ATP" amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

What is the current term of a converted ATP

s 873 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

What are the transitional notional sub-blocks for a converted ATP

s 874 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Division 2—Conversion of particular 1923 Act ATPs to an authority to prospect under this Act

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Subdivision 1—Conversion provisions

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Application of div 2

s 875 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Conversion on 2004 Act start day

s 876 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 91; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Subdivision 2—Special provisions for converted ATPs

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Exclusion from area of land in area of coal mining lease or oil shale mining lease

s 877 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2008 No. 56 s 111

Relinquishment condition if converted ATP includes a reduction requirement

s 878 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Relinquishment condition if authority does not include a reduction requirement

s 879 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Provision for conflicting conditions

s 880 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Additional conditions for renewal application

s 881 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 92

Term of renewed converted ATP

s 882 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Exclusion of s 98(7) for any renewal

s 883 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Existing renewal applications

s 884 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Continued application of 1923 Act, former s 22 to converted ATP for previous acts or omissions

s 885 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Division 3—Unfinished applications for 1923 Act ATPs (other than applications for which a Commonwealth Native Title Act s 29 notice has been given)

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Application of div 3

s 886 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Applications for which notice of intention to grant has been given

s 887 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Applications in response to public notice

s 888 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Other applications made before introduction of Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2004

s 889 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Lapsing of all other applications

s 890 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Division 4—Transition, by application, from 1923 Act ATP to petroleum lease under this Act

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Right of 1923 Act ATP holder to apply for petroleum lease

s 891 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Provisions for deciding application and grant of petroleum lease

s 892 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2009 No. 3 s 583

Division 5—Conversion of particular 1923 Act leases to petroleum leases

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Subdivision 1—Conversion provisions

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Application of sdiv 1

s 893 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2007 No. 46 s 234

Conversion on 2004 Act start day

s 894 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Subdivision 2—Special provisions for converted leases

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Provision for conflicting conditions

s 895 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Sunsetting of particular activities

s 896 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Additional obligation of converted lease holder to lodge proposed later development plan

s 897 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Consequence of failure to comply with notice to lodge proposed later development plan

s 898 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

Existing renewal applications

s 899 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Exclusion of s 168(8) for any renewal application

s 900 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Lapsing of undecided applications to unite converted leases that relate to a converted lease

s 901 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Subdivision 3—Conversion provision inserted under Mines and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 2008 for PL 200

sdiv 3 (s 901A) ins 2008 No. 56 s 112

Division 6—Provisions for particular 1923 Act lease applications and 1923 Act lease renewal applications

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Subdivision 1—Existing 1923 Act, s 40 applications relating to a CSG related 1923 Act ATP or a converted ATP

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Application of sdiv 1

s 902 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Applications for CSG-related 1923 Act ATPs

s 903 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2008 No. 56 s 113

Other applications

s 904 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Subdivision 2—Petroleum leases provided for under particular agreements before or after 31 December 2007

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Application of sdiv 2

s 905 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Petroleum lease under this Act may be granted if so provided

s 906 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Restriction on term of petroleum lease

s 907 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Division 7—Later grant of petroleum tenure to replace equivalent 1923 Act petroleum tenure

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Subdivision 1—Applying for and obtaining replacement tenure

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Right to apply for petroleum tenure

s 908 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Continuing effect of existing tenure for grant application

s 909 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Renewal application provisions apply for making and deciding grant application

s 910 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2007 No. 46 s 235; 2009 No. 3 s 584; 2009 No. 16
s 85

Effect of replacement tenure on existing tenure

s 911 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Provision for continuance of 1923 Act make good obligation

s 911A ins 2005 No. 3 s 93

Subdivision 2—Special provisions for the replacement tenure

sdiv 2 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Restrictions on term and renewed terms

s 912 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Relinquishment condition for replacement authority to prospect

s 913 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Division 8—Matters relating to licence equivalents before 31 December 2004

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2008 No. 56 s 92 sch

Requests for entry permission

s 914 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Entry permissions

s 915 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Pipeline licenses

s 916 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Requests for pipeline licence

s 917 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Approvals under 1923 Act, s 75(5) continue in force

s 918 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Refinery permissions

s 919 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Division 9—Securities**Monetary securities**

s 920 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Non-monetary securities

s 921 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Division 10—Compensation

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Accrued compensation rights relating to converted petroleum authority

s 922 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2007 No. 39 s 41 sch; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Existing compensation agreements relating to converted petroleum authority

s 923 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Division 11—Miscellaneous provisions

div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Conversion of unitisation arrangement or unit development agreement to coordination arrangement

s 924 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Entry notices under Petroleum Regulation 1966, s 17

s 925 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Provisions for petroleum royalty

s 926 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 94; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Corresponding approvals and decisions under 1923 Act for a converted petroleum authority

s 927 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 95; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Existing dealing applications

s 928 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

Continuance of fees under 1923 Act

s 929 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247

Fees for existing applications

s 930 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

References in Acts and documents to 1923 Act

s 931 ins 2004 No. 26 s 247
amd 2005 No. 3 s 96; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch

**PART 4—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR PETROLEUM AND GAS
(PRODUCTION AND SAFETY) ACT 2004****pt hdg** (prev pt 3 hdg) renum 2004 No. 26 s 246**Application of s 6 to particular existing mining tenements****s 932** (prev s 872) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch**Deferral of s 115(1) for existing petroleum leases****s 933** (prev s 873) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
amd 2004 No. 26 ss 249, 69(2) sch; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch**Division 2—Provisions for coal seam gas****div hdg** prev div hdg om 2004 No. 26 s 69(2), sch
pres div hdg ins 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch**Substituted restriction for petroleum leases relating to mineral hydrocarbon mining
leases****s 934** (prev s 874) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
amd 2004 No. 26 s 250; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch**Division 3—Provisions for existing Water Act bores****div hdg** ins 2004 No. 26 s 252**Exemption from, or deferral of, reporting provisions for existing petroleum tenure
holders****s 934A** ins 2004 No. 26 s 252
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch**Make good obligation only applies for existing Water Act bores on or from 31
December 2004****prov hdg** amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch
s 934B ins 2004 No. 26 s 252
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch; 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch**Division 4—Miscellaneous provisions****div hdg** (prev div 3 hdg) renum 2004 No. 26 s 251**Continuation of petroleum royalty exemption for flaring or venting under 1923 Act****prov hdg** amd 2004 No. 26 s 253(1)
s 935 (prev s 875) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
amd 2004 No. 26 ss 253(2), 69(2) sch
om 2005 No. 3 s 97**Deferred application of s 526 for particular petroleum authority holders****s 935A** ins 2004 No. 26 s 254
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch**Deferral of s 803 for existing petroleum facilities****prov hdg** amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch
s 936 (prev s 876) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248**Existing operating plant****s 937** (prev s 877) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch; 2005 No. 3 s 98

Exclusion of ch 5, pt 3, div 1 for continuance of particular existing road uses

s 938 (prev s 878) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

**PART 5—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR PETROLEUM AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT ACT 2005**

pt hdg ins 2005 No. 3 s 99

Pipeline licences

s 938A ins 2005 No. 3 s 99

Requests for pipeline licences

s 938B ins 2005 No. 3 s 99

1923 Act water bores

s 938C ins 2005 No. 3 s 99

Decommissioning wells and bores

s 938D ins 2005 No. 3 s 99

**PART 6—TRANSITIONAL PROVISION FOR MINING AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT ACT 2007**

pt hdg ins 2007 No. 46 s 236

Provision for amendment of s 893

s 939 prev s 939 (prev s 879) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 939 ins 2007 No. 46 s 236

**PART 7—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR THE REVENUE AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT ACT 2008, PART 5**

pt hdg ins 2008 No. 39 s 40

Quarter to which post-amended ss 593 and 594 first apply

s 940 prev s 940 (orig s 880) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 940 ins 2008 No. 39 s 40

Pre-amended Act applies to certain months

s 941 prev s 941 (orig s 881) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 941 ins 2008 No. 39 s 40

**PART 8—TRANSITIONAL PROVISION FOR MINES AND ENERGY
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT ACT 2008**

pt hdg ins 2008 No. 56 s 114

Provision for amendment of s 877

s 942 prev s 942 (orig s 882) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 942 ins 2008 No. 56 s 114

**PART 9—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR MINES AND ENERGY
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT ACT 2010**

pt hdg ins 2010 No. 17 s 89

Definitions for pt 9

- s 943** prev s 943 (prev s 883) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 943 ins 2010 No. 17 s 89

Amendment of sch 2 (Subject matter for regulations)

- s 944** (prev s 884) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)

Continuation of authorisation to carry out particular gas work—fuel gas refrigeration device

- s 945** prev s 945 (prev s 885) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 945 ins 2010 No. 17 s 89

Application of notice requirement under s 733

- s 946** prev s 946 (prev s 886) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 946 ins 2010 No. 17 s 89

PART 10—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR AMENDMENTS UNDER GEOTHERMAL ENERGY ACT 2010

- ch hdg** ins 2010 No. 31 s 435

Division 1—Provisions about mineral (f) pilot tenures

- div hdg** ins 2010 No. 31 s 435

Applications for particular petroleum leases

- s 947** prev s 947 (prev s 887) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 947 ins 2010 No. 31 s 435

Division 2—Provisions about land access and compensation

- div hdg** ins 2010 No. 31 s 491

Land access code prevails over conditions

- s 948** prev s 948 (prev s 888) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 948 ins 2010 No. 31 s 491

Existing compensation agreements other than for notifiable road uses

- s 949** prev s 949 (prev s 889) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 949 ins 2010 No. 31 s 491

Existing entry notices

- s 950** prev s 950 (prev s 890) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 950 ins 2010 No. 31 s 491

References to geothermal tenure

- s 951** prev s 951 (prev s 891) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 951 ins 2010 No. 31 s 491

CHAPTER 16—AMENDMENT OF ACTS**ch hdg** om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))**PART 1—AMENDMENT OF ABORIGINAL LAND ACT 1991****pt hdg** om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))**PART 2—AMENDMENT OF COAL MINING SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT 1999****pt hdg** om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))**PART 3—AMENDMENT OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT 1995****pt hdg** om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))**PART 4—AMENDMENT OF DANGEROUS GOODS SAFETY MANAGEMENT ACT 2001****pt hdg** om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))**PART 5—AMENDMENT OF DUTIES ACT 2001****pt hdg** om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))**Insertion of new s 6D****s 952** (prev s 892) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248

om R1 (see RA s 40)

Amendment of s 234 (Governor in Council may grant mining lease)**s 953** (prev s 893) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248

om R1 (see RA s 40)

PART 6—AMENDMENT OF ELECTRICAL SAFETY ACT 2002**pt 6 (ss 954–955)** (prev ss 894–895) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248

om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 7—AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1994**pt 7 (ss 956–957)** (prev ss 896–897) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248

om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 8—AMENDMENT OF EXPLOSIVES ACT 1999**pt 8 (ss 958–959)** (prev ss 898–899) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248

om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 9—AMENDMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ACT 1990**pt 9 (ss 960–961)** (prev ss 900–901) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248

om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 10—AMENDMENT OF FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF LAND REGISTER ACT 1988**pt 10 (ss 962–963)** (prev ss 902–903) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248

om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 11—AMENDMENT OF FORESTRY ACT 1959**pt 11 (ss 964–965)** (prev ss 904–905) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248

om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 12—AMENDMENT OF GAS PIPELINES ACCESS (QUEENSLAND) ACT 1998

pt 12 (ss 966–968) (prev ss 906–908) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 13—AMENDMENT OF GAS SUPPLY ACT 2003

pt 13 (ss 969–989) (prev ss 909–929) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 14—AMENDMENT OF GEOTHERMAL EXPLORATION ACT 2004

pt 14 (ss 990–994) (prev ss 930–934) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 15—AMENDMENT OF INTEGRATED PLANNING ACT 1997

pt 15 (ss 995–998) (prev ss 935–938) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 16—AMENDMENT OF LAND ACT 1994

pt 16 (ss 999–1000) (prev ss 939–940) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 17—AMENDMENT OF LAND AND RESOURCES TRIBUNAL ACT 1999

pt 17 (ss 1001–1002) (prev ss 941–942) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 18—AMENDMENT OF LAND PROTECTION (PEST AND STOCK ROUTE MANAGEMENT) ACT 2002

pt 18 (ss 1003–1004) (prev ss 943–944) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 19—AMENDMENT OF LAND TITLE ACT 1994

pt 19 (ss 1005–1006) (prev ss 945–946) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 20—AMENDMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993

pt 20 (ss 1007–1008) (prev ss 947–948) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 21—AMENDMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES ACT 1989

pt 21 (ss 1009–1029) (prev ss 949–969) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 22—AMENDMENT OF NATIVE TITLE (QUEENSLAND) ACT 1993

pt 22 (ss 1030–1033) (prev ss 970–973) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 23—AMENDMENT OF QUEENSLAND INTERNATIONAL TOURIST CENTRE AGREEMENT ACT REPEAL ACT 1989

pt 23 (ss 1034–1035) (prev ss 974–975) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 24—AMENDMENT OF THIESS PEABODY COAL PTY. LTD. AGREEMENT ACT 1962

pt 24 (ss 1036–1037) (prev ss 976–977) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 25—AMENDMENT OF TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND ACT 1991

pt 25 (ss 1038–1040) (prev ss 978–980) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 26—AMENDMENT OF VALUATION OF LAND ACT 1944

pt 26 (ss 1041–1043) (prev ss 981–983) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

PART 27—AMENDMENT OF WATER ACT 2000

pt 27 (ss 1044–1053) (prev ss 984–993) renum 2004 No. 26 s 248
om R1 (see RA ss 7(1)(k) and 40)

SCHEDULE 1—REVIEWS AND APPEALS

amd 2004 No. 26 ss 267, 69(2) sch; 2007 No. 39 s 41 sch; 2008 No. 56 s 92
sch; 2009 No. 24 s 674

SCHEDULE 2—DICTIONARY

def “**2004 Act start day**”, means 31 December 2004, ins 2005 No. 68 s 150
sch
om 2007 No. 46 s 237(1)

def “**2004 Act start day**”, means the day section 32 commences, ins 2004 No.
26 s 268(2)
om 2007 No. 46 s 237(1)

def “**additional relinquishment condition**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

def “**ADR**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)

def “**advanced activity**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)

def “**applicant**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)

def “**block**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch

def “**bulk fuel gas storage facility**” ins 2007 No. 46 s 237(2)

def “**coal or oil shale mining lease**” ins 2005 No. 3 s 100(1)

def “**commissioner**” ins 2009 No. 16 s 86(1)

def “**compensation agreement**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch
om 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)

def “**compensation application**” sub 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)–(2)

def “**compensation liability**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch
sub 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)–(2)

def “**conduct and compensation agreement**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)

def “**conduct and compensation agreement requirement**” ins 2010 No. 31
s 492(2)

def “**converted petroleum tenure**” ins 2005 No. 3 s 100(1)

def “**Coordinator-General’s conditions**” ins 2005 No. 57 s 17

def “**Coordinator-General’s report**” ins 2005 No. 57 s 17

def “**dangerous situation**” amd 2009 No. 3 s 585(2)

def “**dealing**” ins 2008 No. 56 s 115(2)

def “**deferral agreement**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)

def “**distribution pipeline**” sub 2006 No. 60 s 177 sch

def “**distribution system**” ins 2007 No. 46 s 237(2)
sub 2008 No. 33 s 124(1)–(2)

def “**election notice**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)

def “**eligible claimant**” sub 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)–(2)

def “**entry notice**” sub 2004 No. 26 s 268(1)–(2); 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)–(2)

def “**entry period**” sub 2004 No. 26 s 268(1)–(2)

- om 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)
- def “**existing Water Act bore**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
- def “**external review**” ins 2009 No. 24 s 675(2)
- def “**fuel gas refrigeration device**” ins 2010 No. 17 s 90(1)
- def “**gas device**” ins 2007 No. 46 s 237(2)
- def “**gas fitting**” reloc from s 733 2008 No. 56 s 107(3)
- def “**gas related device**” ins 2010 No. 17 s 90(1)
- def “**gas system**” sub 2007 No. 46 s 237(1)–(2)
- def “**generic SMP**” ins 2007 No. 46 s 237(2)
- def “**geothermal energy activity**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG assessment criteria**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG authority**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG coordination arrangement**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG lease**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG permit**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG public interest**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG statement**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG storage Act**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG storage activity**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG stream**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG stream storage**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**GHG tenure**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**holder**” amd 2004 No. 26 ss 268(3), 69(2) sch
- def “**holder submissions**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
- def “**impaired capacity**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
- def “**incident**” amd 2010 No. 17 s 90(2)
- def “**initial work program requirements**” ins 2004 No. 26 s 268(2)
- def “**inspector**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch
- def “**interfere with**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch
- def “**internal review application**” ins 2009 No. 24 s 675(2)
- def “**internal review decision**” ins 2009 No. 24 s 675(2)
- def “**land access code**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)
- def “**low impact**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 436
- def “**LPG delivery network**” ins 2007 No. 46 s 237(2)
amd 2010 No. 17 s 90(3)–(4)
- def “**make good agreement**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
- def “**make good obligation**” amd 2005 No. 3 s 100(2)
om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
- def “**mandatory provision**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)
- def “**MDLA 407**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 436
- def “**mineable coal seam**” om 2005 No. 26 s 268(1)
- def “**mineable oil shale deposit**” om 2008 No. 56 s 92 sch
- def “**mineral (f)**” ins 2008 No. 33 s 124(2)
- def “**mineral (f) pilot tenure**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 436
- def “**mineral (f) production tenure**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 436
- def “**mineral (f) tenure**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 436
- def “**mineral hydrocarbon mining lease**” ins 2007 No. 46 s 237(2)
- def “**minimum negotiation period**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)
- def “**monitoring report**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)

- def “**multi-tenanted premises**” ins 2008 No. 33 s 124(2)
def “**negotiation notice**” sub 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)–(2)
def “**occupier**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch; 2010 No. 31 s 492(3)
def “**official**” amd 2009 No. 16 s 86(2)
def “**operate**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch; 2009 No. 3 s 585(3)
def “**original notional sub-blocks**” sub 2004 No. 26 s 268(1)–(2)
amd 2007 No. 46 s 241 sch
def “**overlapping authority priority**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
def “**overlapping GHG authority**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
def “**overlapping GHG lease application period**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
def “**overlapping mineral (f) land**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 436
def “**owner**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 268(5)–(7); 2006 No. 39 s 512(1) sch 1; 2007
No. 46 s 237(3); 2010 No. 53 s 92(3)–(4)
def “**parties**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)
def “**permitted dealing**” om 2008 No. 56 s 115(1)
def “**petroleum producer**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 268(4); 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch;
2007 No. 46 s 237(4)
def “**preliminary activity**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)
def “**prescribed incidents**” ins 2004 No. 26 s 268(2)
def “**principal hazard management plan**” ins 2004 No. 26 s 268(2)
def “**private land**” sub 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)–(2)
def “**public land**” sub 2004 No. 26 s 268(1)–(2); 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)–(2)
def “**public land authority approval**” om 2005 No. 26 s 268(1)
def “**public road authority**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch
def “**QCAT information notice**” ins 2009 No. 24 s 675(2)
def “**quarter**” ins 2008 No. 39 s 41
def “**relevant departmental office**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
def “**relevant land**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
def “**relevant owner or occupier**” ins 2010 No. 31 s 492(2)
def “**relinquishment condition**” sub 2004 No. 26 s 268(1)–(2)
def “**replacement tenure**” ins 2005 No. 3 s 100(1)
def “**reprisal**” ins 2009 No. 16 s 86(1)
def “**resource management decision**” ins 2009 No. 3 s 585(1)
def “**restoration measures**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
def “**review application**” om 2009 No. 24 s 675(1)
def “**review decision**” om 2009 No. 24 s 675(1)
def “**review report**” ins 2005 No. 3 s 100(1)
om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
def “**services of the State**” ins 2004 No. 26 s 268(2)
def “**significant project**” ins 2005 No. 57 s 17
def “**tank**” ins 2007 No. 46 s 237(2)
def “**the public interest**” amd 2004 No. 26 s 268(8)
def “**tribunal**” om 2007 No. 39 s 41 sch
def “**trigger threshold**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
def “**underground gasification activity**” ins 2008 No. 33 s 124(2)
def “**underground water flow model**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
def “**underground water impact report**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)
def “**underground water obligations**” ins 2010 No. 53 s 92(2)
def “**underground water rights**” amd 2010 No. 53 s 92(5)
def “**unduly affected**” om 2010 No. 53 s 92(1)

def “**waiver of entry notice**” sub 2004 No. 26 s 268(1)–(2); 2010 No. 31 s 492(1)–(2)
 def “**worker**” reloc from s 726 2008 No. 56 s 105(1)

8 List of forms notified or published in the gazette

(The following information about forms is taken from the gazette and is included for information purposes only. Because failure by a department to notify or publish a form in the gazette does not invalidate the form, you should check with the relevant government department for the latest information about forms (see Statutory Instruments Act, section 58(8)).)

- Form ATP-01A Version 2—Application to Tender for Authority to Prospect**
 pubd gaz 28 November 2008 p 1695
- Form ATP-02A Version 1—Application for Renewal of Authority to Prospect**
 pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16
- Form ATP-04A Version 1—Application to Divide Granted Authority to Prospect**
 pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16
- Form ATP-07A Version 1—Application for the Minister to Declare Potential Commercial Area**
 pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16
- Form DAA-01A Version 2—Application for Data Acquisition Authority**
 pubd gaz 28 November 2008 p 1695
- Form FDU1605 Version 1—Petroleum Royalty Return**
 pubd gaz 19 September 2008 p 400
- Form PA-01A Version 1—Application for Surrender of Petroleum Authorities (Whole or Part)**
 pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16
- Form PA-05A Version 4—Application for Approval to Transfer a Petroleum Authority or Tenure**
 pubd gaz 28 November 2008 p 1695
- Form PA-05AA Version 1—Application for Approval to Mortgage a Petroleum Authority or Tenure, or to Release, Transfer or Surrender a Mortgage**
 pubd gaz 9 September 2005 p 94
- Form PA-05AB Version 1—Application for Approval to Sublease, or Transfer a Sublease, for a Petroleum Lease**
 pubd gaz 9 September 2005 p 94
- Form PA-10A Version 2—Application to Amend Licence**
 pubd gaz 9 September 2005 p 94
- Form PA-11A Version 1—Administrative Notifications**
 pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Form PA-16A Version 1—Review of Application

pubd gaz 24 March 2005 p 951

Form PA-18A Version 1—Lodging a Prescribed Agreement

pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Form PA-19A Version 3—Notice of Intention to Drill a Petroleum Well or a Water Bore

pubd gaz 9 September 2005 p 94

Form PA-20A Version 3—Notice of the Completion, Alteration or Abandonment of a Petroleum Well or Water Bore

pubd gaz 9 September 2005 p 94

Form PA-21A Version 3—Notice of Intention to Carry Out Seismic Survey or Scientific or Technical Survey

pubd gaz 9 September 2005 p 94

Form PA-22A Version 3—Notice of Completion of Seismic Survey or Scientific or Technical Survey

pubd gaz 14 October 2005 p 528

Form PA-23AAA Version 1—The Rights and Obligations of Holders, Owners and Occupiers Relating to the Entry of Land under a Petroleum Authority

pubd gaz 11 February 2005 p 455

Form PA-38 Version 1—Application to Record Change of Name

pubd gaz 2 May 2008 p 161

Form PFL-01A Version 3—Application for Petroleum Facility Licence

pubd gaz 28 November 2008 p 1695

Form PFL-02A Version 1—Application for Renewal of Petroleum Facility Licence

pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Form PGA389 Version 1—Application for Exemption From Additional SMP Content Requirements

pubd gaz 24 March 2005 p 951

Form PGA622 Version 1—Application for gas quality approval

pubd gaz 1 April 2005 p 1016

Form PGA658 Version 1—Application to install and use pre-payment gas meters

pubd gaz 1 April 2005 p 1016

Form PGA697 Version 2—Operating Plant Compliance certificate

pubd gaz 16 February 2007 p 759

Form PGA728A Version 6—Application for Gas Work Authorisation (Industrial Appliances or Servicing)

pubd gaz 25 June 2010 p 821

Form PGA728AH Version 5—Application for Gas Work Authorisation (Hydrocarbon Refrigerants)

pubd gaz 28 August 2009 p 1489

- Form PGA728AM Version 5—Application for Gas Work Authorisation (Major Project)**
pubd gaz 25 June 2010 p 821
- Form PGA728AV Version 6—Application for Gas Work Authorisation (Motor Fuel)**
pubd gaz 25 June 2010 p 821
- Form PGA728L Version 10—Application for Gas Work Licence**
pubd gaz 25 June 2010 p 821
- Form PGA728LH Version 2—Application for Gas Work Licence (Hydrocarbon Refrigerants)**
pubd gaz 25 June 2010 p 821
- Form PGA733(1) Version 2—Import/Manufacturer Compliance certificate**
pubd gaz 16 February 2007 p 759
- Form PGA733(2) Version 1—Application to offer for sale, install or use a gas device or gas fitting**
pubd gaz 1 April 2005 p 1016
- Form PGA733(2)N Version 1—Type B Gas Device Approval Notice**
pubd gaz 21 May 2010 p 183
- Form PGA734 Version 2—Gas System Compliance Certificate**
pubd gaz 11 November 2005 p 888
- Form PGA734(2) Version 1—Gas System Defect Notice**
pubd gaz 6 November 2009 p 726
- Form PGA747 Version 1—Acknowledgement of Consent to Entry**
pubd gaz 14 March 2008 p 1467
- Form PGR76 Version 1—Application for section 76 exemption from regulations**
pubd gaz 1 April 2005 p 1016
- Form PGR101/102 Version 1—Vehicle/vessel Inspection Certificate**
pubd gaz 1 April 2005 p 1016
- Form PGR114 Version 1—Application for approval to decant LPG**
pubd gaz 1 April 2005 p 1016
- Form PGR139 Version 7—Queensland Petroleum and Gas Safety and Health Fee Return Form**
pubd gaz 30 July 2010 p 1251
- Form PL-01A Version 5—Application for ATP-Related Petroleum Lease**
pubd gaz 9 July 2010 p 1098
- Form PL-01AA Version 4—Application for Petroleum Lease by or Jointly with Coal or Oil Shale Mining Tenement Holder**
pubd gaz 9 July 2010 p 1098
- Form PL-02A Version 3—Application to Tender for Petroleum Lease**
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- Form PL-03AA Version 2—Application for Renewal of Petroleum Lease**
pubd gaz 16 May 2008 p 405

Form PL-05A Version 1—Application to Amend Relinquishment Condition of Petroleum Lease

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Form PL-06A Version 1—Application to Divide Granted Conventional Petroleum Lease

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Form PL-07A Version 1—Application to Divide Granted Coal Seam Gas Petroleum Lease

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Form PPL-01A Version 2—Application for Pipeline Licence

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Form PPL-02A Version 1—Application for Renewal of Pipeline Licence

pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Form PPL-03A Version 1—Application for Permission to Enter Land for the Purpose of Exercising Rights Under a Pipeline Licence or Petroleum Facility Licence (A “Part 5 Permission”)

pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Form PSL-01A Version 2—Application for Survey Licence

pubd gaz 28 November 2008 p 1695

Form WRA-01A Version 2—Application for Water Monitoring Authority

pubd gaz 28 November 2008 p 1695

Form WRA-02A Version 2—Notification of Transfer of Water Supply Bore or Water Observation Bore to Landowner

pubd gaz 28 November 2008 p 1695

Form WRA-03A Version 1—Notification of Transfer of Petroleum Well to Holder of Geothermal Exploration Permit or Mining Tenement

pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Form WRA-04A Version 1—Notification of Transfer of Water Observation Bore to Holder of Petroleum Tenure or Water Monitoring Authority

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Form WRA-05A Version 1—Notification of Conversion of Petroleum Well to Water Supply Bore

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Form WRA-06A Version 1—Application to Amend a Water Monitoring Authority

pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Form WRA-07A Version 1—Application for a Trigger Threshold

pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Form WRA-08A Version 1—Water Monitoring Authority—Authority

pubd gaz 17 December 2004 pp 1215–16

Version 5—Gas Work Licence Notes 2008

pubd gaz 30 April 2010 p 1052