

Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2019

Explanatory notes for SL 2019 No. 233

made under the

Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2019

General Outline

Short title

Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2019.

Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2019.*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of the Proclamation is to commence the remaining provisions of the *Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2019* (the GBR Act) on 1 December 2019.

The GBR Act makes amendments to strengthen Great Barrier Reef protection measures to improve the quality of the water entering the Great Barrier Reef.

Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objective is achieved by fixing a commencement date of 1 December 2019 for the remaining provisions of the GBR Act.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Proclamation is consistent with the policy objectives of the authorising law.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

There is no inconsistency with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The Proclamation simply commences the GBR Act. Any implementation costs arising from initiatives to support the GBR Act will be met from existing agency resources. The future allocation of resources will be determined through normal budgetary processes.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Proclamation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

No specific stakeholder consultation was undertaken on the Proclamation because it is considered administrative in nature.

During its development, the GBR Act was subject to extensive consultation with the agricultural and industrial sectors, conservation groups and local governments.

A Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement was also released in September 2017 and again in January 2018 for a total period of 11 weeks.

In addition, key peak bodies (including agricultural and industrial representative bodies such as Canegrowers, AgForce, and Queensland Resources Council, as well as conservation groups, and natural resource management bodies) were consulted about the proposed commencement date of 1 December 2019. No issues were raised in relation to the commencement date.

In accordance with *The Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation*, further regulatory impact analysis was not required (Category (g) – Regulatory proposals that are of a machinery nature). Consequently, consultation with the Office of Best Practice Regulation was not required.