

Proclamation—*Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023*

Explanatory notes for SL 2023 No. 140

made under the

Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023

General Outline

Short title

Proclamation—*Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023*

Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The *Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023* was assented to on 5 April 2023. Section 2 provides that certain parts of the Act commence by Proclamation.

The objective of this Proclamation is to commence sections 140 and 141 which are amendments to the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993* (Wet Tropics Act).

The changes better protect the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area (World Heritage Area) by removing an exemption to the prohibitions under the Act which allowed mining under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*; and by aligning with National Cabinet Review changes - replacing Ministerial Council.

Achievement of policy objectives

The Proclamation is achieved by fixing 13 October 2023 as the commencement date for sections 140 and 141 of the *Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023*.

Commencement will occur simultaneously with consequential amendments to the Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Proclamation is consistent with the policy objectives of the Amendment Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The Proclamation is not inconsistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The benefit of the Proclamation is to simultaneously commence changes that remove the opportunity for mining under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* from the Wet Tropics Act and the Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998. Additional costs are not anticipated.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Proclamation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

In accordance with the *The Queensland Better Regulation Policy*, an Impact Analysis Statement has been prepared and consultation with the Office of Best Practice Regulation has occurred on the Proclamation identifying that the proposal is minor and machinery in nature.