

Petroleum and Gas (Safety) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2022

Human Rights Certificate

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*

In accordance with section 41 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, I, Scott Stewart MP, Minister for Resources provide this human rights certificate with respect to the *Petroleum and Gas (Safety) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2022* (the Amendment Regulation) made under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*, the *Petroleum Act 1923* and the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*.

In my opinion, the Amendment Regulation, as tabled in the Legislative Assembly, is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019*. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

Overview of the Subordinate Legislation

The Amendment Regulation, which amends the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Regulation 2017*, the *Petroleum and Gas (General Provisions) Regulation 2017* and the *Petroleum and Gas (Safety) Regulation 2018*, implements Action 40 of the Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan to remove the prohibition on the use of steel casing in horizontal wells where there is no overlapping coal tenure. This approach seeks to provide beneficial outcomes for both the petroleum and coal industries, reducing industry burden and providing for greater flexibility to optimise future resources where there is no immediate safety risk.

The Amendment Regulation also replaces the definition of ‘horizontal well’ under the *Petroleum and Gas (Safety) Regulation 2018* with ‘relevant horizontal well’, being a petroleum well, any part of which travels in a generally horizontal direction within or adjacent to a coal seam. This amendment clarifies that the term does not apply to any well with a horizontal trajectory; rather, it must be associated with a coal seam.

Finally, amendments to the *Petroleum and Gas (General Provisions) Regulation 2017* clarify that the confidentiality periods which apply to required information for petroleum and gas tenures do not apply to an overlapping coal or oil shale tenement holder.

Human Rights Issues

Human rights relevant to the subordinate legislation (Part 2, Division 2 and 3 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

The Amendment Regulation does not affect or engage a human right.

Conclusion

I consider that the *Petroleum and Gas (Safety) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2022* is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not limit human rights.

SCOTT STEWART MP
Minister for Resources

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