

Petroleum and Gas (Safety) (Fee Unit Conversion) Amendment Regulation 2023

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) (Fee Unit Conversion) Amendment Regulation 2023* (Amendment Regulation) made under 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 effects the fee unit model conversion for methane/biogas fees prescribed under the current *Petroleum and Gas (Safety) Regulation 2018* (P&G Regulation), schedule 6, part 3, section 14.

Per *The Queensland Treasury Principles for Fees and Charges* (October 2021), the fee unit model required that by 1 July 2022 all fees captured by the Government's indexation policy be displayed as a number of fee units, not a dollar amount, in agencies' respective regulations, unless an exemption has been provided. The fee unit model streamlines the annual process of indexing regulatory fees. It provides for indexation of the fee unit rather than the amendment of hundreds of pages of regulation each year.

The conversion for methane/biogas fees was granted an exemption by the Queensland Treasury and therefore planned to commence on 1 July 2023, under the *Resources Safety and Health Legislation (Fee Unit Conversion) Amendment Regulation 2022* which commenced on 10 June 2022. However, an earlier regulation—the *Resources Legislation (Safety and Health Fees) Amendment Regulation 2021*—also amended the methane/biogas fees provision in schedule 6, part 3, section 14 of the P&G Regulation and these provisions commenced from 1 July 2022. Due to a drafting error the fee unit regulation was cancelled out by the other regulation and the methane/biogas fees were not converted to fee units.

Human Rights Issues

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

In my opinion, this subordinate legislation does not engage or limit any human rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

Conclusion

I consider that the *Petroleum and Gas (Safety) (Fee Unit Conversion) Amendment Regulation 2023* is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not raise any human rights issues.

SCOTT STEWART MP
MINISTER FOR RESOURCES

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