

1994



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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETROLEUM (SUBMERGED LANDS) FEES BILL 1994

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister  
for Resources, The Hon David Beddall, MP)

GENERAL OUTLINE

1. The Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Fees Bill 1994 creates the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Fees Act 1994 to consolidate provisions contained in the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Exploration Permit Fees) Act 1967, the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Production Licence Fees) Act 1967, the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Pipeline Licence Fees) Act 1967, and the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Retention Lease Fees) Act 1985. These previous fees Acts are repealed by clause 12 of the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Legislation Amendment Bill 1994.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

2. The amendments will have no impact on Government expenditures and will have no staffing implications for the Department of Primary Industries and Energy.

NOTES ON THE CLAUSES OF THE BILLClause 1Short title

3. This clause provides for the short title of the legislation.

Clause 2Commencement

4. The Act will come into operation on 1 July 1994.

Clause 3Incorporation

5. This Act forms part of the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967.

Clause 4Fees

6. This clause provides for the payment of annual fees by holders of petroleum exploration permits, retention leases, production licences and pipeline licences (titles).

7. Subclause (2) requires the fee to be paid to the Designated Authority and calculated in accordance with the regulations.

8. Subclauses (3) and (4) require fees to be paid within one month of the commencement of a title term or within one month of the anniversary of the commencement of a title term.

9. Subclause (5) is a transition provision to ensure annual fees are not payable if equivalent fees are payable under the Acts which this Act replaces.

Clause 5Penalty for late payment

10. This clause provides for the payment of additional amounts where fees are not paid in accordance with clause 4.

11. Subclause (2) requires the additional amount to be calculated at the rate of one third of one percent per day from the day the fee became payable.

Clause 6Fees and penalties debts due to the Commonwealth

12. This clause ensures that amounts payable under clauses 4 or 5, including those received by the Designated Authority, are debts due to the Commonwealth and are recoverable in the courts.

Clause 7

Regulations

13. This clause allows regulations to be made for the purposes of this Act. Its purpose is to prescribe the level of the administrative fees allowed by this Act.

