

ensure they make any necessary applications to the Minister so that they do not suffer any unnecessary erosion of profit by paying more royalties than absolutely necessary.

TASMANIA*

GAS AMENDMENT ACT 2005

The Gas Amendment Act 2005 received Royal Assent on 9 December 2005. It amends the *Gas Act 2000* and the *Gas Pipelines Act 2000* and adds to the package of legislation relating to the Tasmanian Natural Gas Project.

The amending legislation extends the definition of gas supply point in section 3 of the *Gas Act 2000* to allow certain points of supply to be declared as gas supply points. It also adds a new definition to section 3 for licensees under the *Gas Pipelines Act 2000*. Licensees falling within this definition are included in the category of entities in section 52(2) that commit an offence for knowingly supplying or selling gas for use in a gas installation which does not comply with the Act otherwise than with the approval of the Director of Gas Safety. At the same time, the amendment to the *Gas Pipelines Act 2000* removes the mandatory requirement in section 34(2) for licensees to report to the Director of Gas Safety incidents in respect of gas installations for the supply of gas, although the reporting requirements for incident respect of a pipelines or pipeline facilities are retained.

The purpose of these amendments is to ensure appropriate safety and technical measures apply to all gas installations irrespective of whether they are connected to a transmission pipeline or a distribution system.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) ACT 2005

The Electricity Supply Industry (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2005 received Royal Assent on 15 December 2005. Most of the provisions commenced on that date, although some remain to commence on a day to be proclaimed. The Act amends a number of pieces of legislation relating to the supply of electricity. These amendments were required to be made as a result of Tasmania's entry into the National Electricity Market in May 2005. They are minor in nature, generally substituting 'Australian Energy Regulator' for 'Australian Competition and Consumer Commission', 'National Electricity Rules' for 'National Electricity Code' and 'system' for 'network'.

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