



Customs Tariff Amendment (Greater Sunrise) Bill 2007

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Law and Bills Digest Section

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Customs Tariff Amendment (Greater Sunrise) Bill 2007

Date introduced: 14 February 2007

House: House of Representatives

Portfolio: Justice and Customs

Commencement: Sections 1 - 3 commence upon Royal Assent, Schedule 1 commences at the same time as Schedule 1 to the Offshore Petroleum Amendment (Greater Sunrise) Act 2007 commences.

Purpose

The bill makes consequential amendments to the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* necessary to implement Australia's obligations under the Greater Sunrise Unitisation Agreement (IUA), which was signed by Australia and Timor-Leste in Dili on 6 March 2003.

Background

The IUA is being incorporated into the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006*, via the Offshore Petroleum Amendment (Greater Sunrise) Bill 2007 currently before Parliament. See the Bills Digest for that bill for background detail on the IUA and its implementation. Note that the operative provisions of the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006* are not yet in force.

In particular, Article 22 of the IUA allows for duty-free entry of any goods and equipment entering the unitisation area for the purposes of petroleum activities. The *Customs Tariff Amendment (Greater Sunrise) Act 2004* added item 22A to Schedule 4 of the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* to provide for the duty free entry of goods.

Provisions of the Bill

The *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967* (PSLA) is being replaced by the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006*. This bill replaces references to PLSA within the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* (the Act) with reference to the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006*.

Item 1 in Schedule 1 amends Subsection 3(1) of the Act to replace reference to PLSA with the Offshore Petroleum Act.

Item 2 amends Schedule 4 (item 22A) of the Act to omit reference to the PLSA and replace with 'Eastern Greater Sunrise offshore area, within the meaning of the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006*'.

Warning:

This Digest was prepared for debate. It reflects the legislation as introduced and does not canvass subsequent amendments.

This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

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