

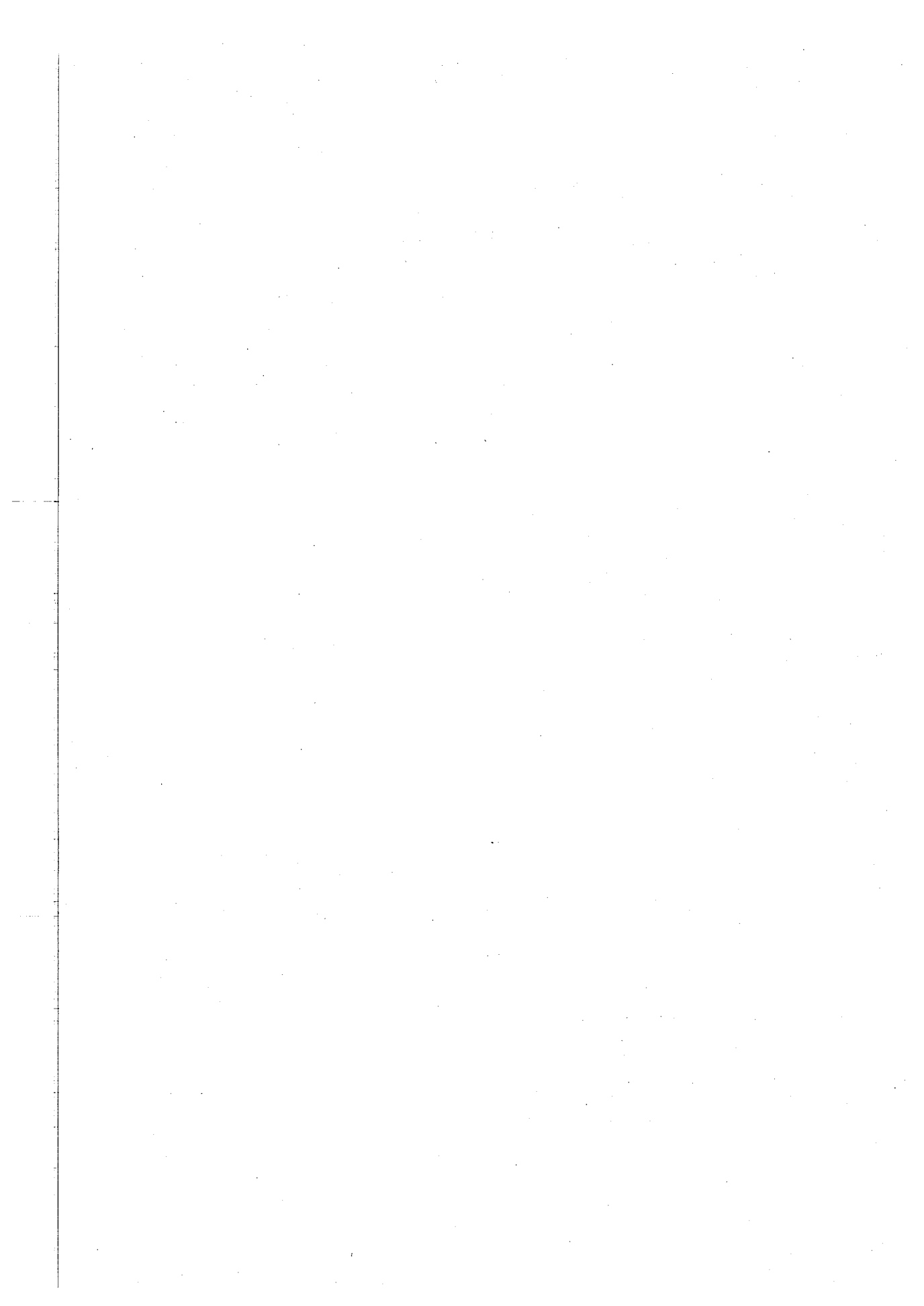
NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
OFF-SHORE WATERS (APPLICATION OF
TERRITORY LAWS) ACT

No. 45 of 1985

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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

No. 45 of 1985

AN ACT

To make provision for and in relation to the application of the laws of the Territory to the coastal waters of the Territory

[Assented to 18 September 1985]

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory of Australia, with the assent as provided by the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* of the Commonwealth, as follows:

1. SHORT TITLE

This Act may be cited as the *Off-shore Waters (Application of Territory Laws) Act 1985*.

2. INTERPRETATION

(1) In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears -

"adjacent area in respect of the Territory" means adjacent area in respect of the Territory within the meaning of the *Coastal Waters (Northern Territory Powers) Act 1980* of the Commonwealth;

"coastal waters of the Territory" means coastal waters of the Territory within the meaning of the *Coastal Waters (Northern Territory Powers) Act 1980* of the Commonwealth;

"law of the Territory" means a present or future law in force in the Territory, whether written or unwritten and as in force from time to time, and includes an instrument of a legislative or administrative character made and in force under such a law, but does not include a law of the Commonwealth;

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(2) A reference in this Act to the coastal waters of the Territory includes a reference to the sea-bed and subsoil beneath, and the airspace above, those waters.

3. APPLICATION OF LAWS OF TERRITORY TO COASTAL WATERS AND ADJACENT AREA

(1) Subject to this section -

(a) the laws of the Territory -

(i) have effect in and in relation to the coastal waters of the Territory; and

(ii) apply to and in relation to an act done or omitted to be done at a place within those waters; and

(b) a reference in a written law of the Territory to "the Territory", "the Northern Territory" or other similar reference shall be read as including a reference to the coastal waters of the Territory.

(2) Where a written law of the Territory is in force in relation to -

(a) subterranean mining from land within the limits of the Territory or mining which includes subterranean mining from land within those limits; or

(b) ports, harbours or other shipping facilities, including installations, and dredging and other works, relating thereto, or other coastal works,

then, without limiting the generality of subsection (1), and unless the contrary intention appears in that law, that law has effect and applies -

(c) to and in relation to -

(i) subterranean mining carried out or proposed to be carried out; or

(ii) facilities and works referred to in paragraph (b) that are located or carried out or proposed to be located or carried out,

within the adjacent area of the Territory but beyond the outer limits of the coastal waters of the Territory; and

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- (d) to and in relation to an activity or operation carried out or proposed to be carried out within the adjacent area of the Territory but beyond the outer limits of the coastal waters of the Territory in relation to facilities or works so referred to that are located or carried out, or proposed to be located or carried out, within those outer limits.

(3) This section does not operate to apply the provisions of the criminal laws within the meaning of the *Criminal Law (Offences at Sea) Act* in force in the Territory to or in relation to an act or omission to which the provisions of those laws apply by virtue of section 6 of that Act.

(4) Nothing in this section shall of itself be taken to limit the effect or application of a written law of the Territory in so far as it purports to have effect beyond the outer limits of the coastal waters of the Territory, or to apply to or in relation to an act done or omitted to be done beyond those limits.

4. REGULATIONS

(1) The Administrator may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, prescribing matters -

- (a) required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed; or
- (b) necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.

(2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the Regulations may provide that such provisions, or classes of provisions, of laws of the Territory as are specified in the Regulations do not -

- (a) have effect in or in relation to the coastal waters of the Territory;
- (b) apply to or in relation to specified acts or omissions within those waters, or specified classes of acts done or omitted to be done within those waters; or
- (c) have effect in specified circumstances or in specified parts of those waters,

and, where such regulations are made, this Act shall be construed to apply the laws in force in the Territory subject to and in accordance with those regulations.

