

# THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

No. 32 of 1979

## AN ACT

To amend the Petroleum (Prospecting  
and Mining) Act

[Assented to 4 April 1979]

**B**E 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. This Act may be cited as the Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) Act 1979.

Short title.

2. The Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) Act is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

Principal Act

3. This Act shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by the Administrator by notice in the Gazette.

Commencement

4. Section 23 of the Principal Act is amended -

Suspension of obligations under permit

(a) by omitting from sub-section (2) "after obtaining a report from the Oil Advisory Committee" and substituting "by instrument in writing"; and

(b) by omitting sub-section (3) and substituting the following sub-section:

"(3) A suspension under sub-section (2) may be expressed to have effect from a date earlier than the date on which the instrument is signed and, if so expressed, it shall have, and be deemed to have had, effect as if the instrument had been signed on that earlier date."

5. Section 46 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting sub-sections (6) and (7) and substituting the following sub-sections:

Grant of leases

"(6) Where, before 4 June 1976, a person was issued with a permit in respect of land, sub-section (4) does not apply to the grant to that person of a lease in respect of that land.

Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining)

"(7) Sub-section (4) does not apply to the grant to a person of a lease in respect of Aboriginal land if that person applied for the grant of the lease before that land became Aboriginal land."

Conversion  
of existing  
permits and  
licences

6. Section 50 of the Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) Ordinance 1966 is amended -

- (a) by omitting from sub-section (8) all words after "the Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) Ordinance 1954-1965"; and
- (b) by omitting sub-section (9).