

Serial 191
Mining Amendment Bill 2003
Mr Henderson

**A BILL
for
AN ACT**

to amend the *Mining Act*



NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

MINING AMENDMENT ACT 2003

No. of 2003

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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

No. of 2003

AN ACT

to amend the *Mining Act*

[Assented to 2003]

[Second reading 2003]

The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory enacts as follows:

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Mining Amendment Act 2003*.

2. Principal Act

The *Mining Act* is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

3. New section

The Principal Act is amended by inserting after section 3 the following:

"3A. Objects

"(1) The objects of this Act are –

- (a) to provide a framework within which persons may undertake activities to explore for and mine mineral resources; and
- (b) to enable the value of the mineral resources in the Territory to be maximised.

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- "(2) The objects are to be achieved by –
- (a) transferring the right to explore for or mine minerals from the Crown to other persons;
 - (b) establishing a legally effective system of transferable titles to rights to explore, extract, process and carry out other activities associated with maximising the mineral resource;
 - (c) ensuring that the holders of mining interests actively work the areas held under their mining interests and develop commercially viable mineral deposits discovered by them;
 - (d) reducing risks of damage to the environment caused by mining to an optimal level taking into account the full costs and benefits of doing so;
 - (e) collecting information about the geological and mineral resources of the Territory and disseminating that information; and
 - (f) carrying out the administration of this Act and the instruments of legislative and administrative character made under this Act in an efficient and responsible manner."

4. Grant of exploration licence

Section 16 of the Principal Act is amended –

- (a) by omitting from subsection (3)(a) "licence;" and substituting "licence; or";
- (b) by omitting from subsection (3)(b) "pay; or" and substituting "pay."; and
- (c) by omitting subsection (3)(c).

5. Application for mineral lease

Section 54 of the Principal Act is amended –

- (a) by omitting "(1)";
- (b) by omitting from subsection (1) "the mining of a particular mineral or particular minerals" and substituting "mining minerals other than a mineral or minerals specified in the lease document as a mineral or minerals that the miner may not mine"; and
- (c) by omitting subsection (2).

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6. Grant of mineral lease

Section 60 of the Principal Act is amended –

- (a) by omitting from subsection (1)(a) "the mineral or minerals specified in the lease document" and substituting "minerals (other than a mineral specified in the lease document as a mineral that the miner may not mine)";
 - (b) by omitting from subsection (1)(a) "that mineral or those";
 - (c) by omitting from subsection (1)(b) "a specified mineral or"; and
 - (d) by omitting from subsection (2)(c) "the mineral or minerals specified in the lease document" and substituting "minerals".
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