Serial 63
Power and Water
Authority
Amendment
Mr Poole

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

POWER AND WATER AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 1998

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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

A BILL for AN ACT

to amend the Power and Water Authority Act

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 Power and Water Authority Amendment Act 1998.

2. PRINCIPAL ACT

The Power and Water Authority Act is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

3. FUNCTIONS OF AUTHORITY

Section 14 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (3) the following:

- "(3A) Subject to subsection (3B), the Authority has the functions of -
 - (a) providing communications facilities and services; and

- (b) providing other facilities and services.
- "(3B) The Authority may only provide a particular kind of facility or service under subsection (3A) -
 - (a) if the provision of the facility or service is consistent with the requirement that the Authority act in a commercial manner; and
 - (b) with the approval of the Minister.".

4. POWERS OF AUTHORITY

Section 15 of the Principal Act is amended -

- (a) by omitting from subsection (2)(c) ", gas or sewerage or other service will be supplied or" and substituting "or gas will be supplied by the Authority or any sewerage, communications or other service will be"; and
- (b) by omitting subsection (2)(r) and substituting the following:
- "(r) to collect fees and charges for the supply of electricity, water or gas by the Authority or for the provision of sewerage, communications or other services by the Authority;".

5. AUTHORITY TO TAKE GENERAL COMMERCIAL APPROACH

Section 17 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (2) and substituting the following:

- "(2) Where -
- (a) the Minister considers it necessary or desirable for electricity, water or gas to be supplied or sewerage, communications or other services to be provided in an area (whether for domestic or non-domestic purposes); and
- (b) the Authority considers it appropriate to seek a contribution from the Territory (whether by grant, subsidy or loan) towards that supply or those services,

the Treasurer may make the contribution towards the establishment of the supply or services or toward their operation that is estimated by the Authority and agreed by the Treasurer.".

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6. BY-LAWS

Section 25 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting paragraph (b) and substituting the following:

"(b) for fixing the terms and conditions (other than tariffs) of supply of electricity, water or gas or provision of sewerage, communications or other services by the Authority or its agents.".