

Petroleum Retail Marketing Sites Regulations (Amendment) 1997 No. 211

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

STATUTORY RULES 1997 No. 211

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism

Petroleum Retail Marketing Sites Act 1980

Petroleum Retail Marketing Sites Regulations (Amendment)

The Act is designed to restrain vertical integration by the major oil companies in order to encourage competition between resellers at the retail level, by establishing quotas on the number of outlets which each company may directly operate.

The Petroleum Retail Marketing Sites Regulations (Amendment) ("the proposed Regulations") amend the Petroleum Retail Marketing Sites Regulations ("the principal Regulations"), to temporarily extend the site quota for BP Australia Limited (from its current allocation of 87 sites to 105 sites for the period 1 April 1996 to 31 July 1997) and for Mobil Australia Limited (from its current allocation of 87 sites to 116 sites for the period 1 April 1996 to 30 September 1997).

The amending Regulations amend the principal Regulations as follows:

Regulation 1 provides that the operative part of this amendment (Regulation 3) commences retrospectively to 1 April 1996;

Regulation 2 states that the Petroleum Retail Marketing Sites Regulations are amended as set out in these amending Regulations.

Regulation 3 specifies the quotas applicable to BP Australia Limited for the period 1 April 1996 to 31 July 1997, and Mobil Australia Limited for the period 1 April 1996 to 30 September 1997, and the quotas to apply after those dates.

Regulation 4 preserves rights under section 12 of the Act in the period since 1 April 1996, in order to comply with section 48 of the Acts *Interpretation Act 1901*.