

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

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### COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENTS\*

#### RESTRUCTURING OF KEY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS - THE NEW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY SCIENCE AND RESOURCES

One of the aims of the restructuring announced on 18 October 1998 was to take a more integrated approach to industry and resource development.

- Senator the Hon Nick Minchin has taken over the new portfolio of Industry Science and Resources.
- The new portfolio is an amalgamation of the former Department of Industry Science and Tourism and the resource and energy elements of the primary industries and energy portfolio.
- The new departments mission is to deliver a coherent and integrated approach to industry development issues and the facilitation of the major investment projects.

The resources legislation coming with the portfolio includes:

- *Gas Pipelines Access (Commonwealth) Act 1998*
- *Moomba-Sydney Pipeline System Sale Act 1994*, except Part 6 which is administered by the treasurer
- *Offshore Minerals Act 1994*
- *Offshore Minerals (Exploration Licence Fees) Act 1981*
- *Offshore Minerals (Mining Licence Fees) Act 1981*
- *Offshore Minerals (Retention Licence Fees) Act 1994*
- *Offshore Minerals (Registration Fees) Act 1981*
- *Offshore Minerals (Royalty) Act 1981*
- *Offshore Minerals (Works Licence Fees) Act 1994*
- *Petroleum Search Subsidy Act 1959*
- *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967*
- *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Fees) Act 1994*
- *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Registration Fees) Act 1994*
- *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Royalty) Act 1967*
- *Trade Practices Act 1974*, Division 1AA of Part V

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