

1987

PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

LANDS ACQUISITION AMENDMENT BILL 1987

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Local Government
and Administrative Service, the Hon Tom Uren, MP)

LANDS ACQUISITION AMENDMENT BILL 1987

OUTLINE

This is a Bill for an Act to amend the Lands Acquisition Act 1955

The Bill is one of a number of Bills required to give effect to the Government's decision to extend the present Kakadu National Park, to include the pastoral leases of Gimbat and Goodparla. The Government's decision also includes the declaration of a Conservation Zone over part of Gimbat and Goodparla.

The purpose of the Bill is to enable exploration and mining licences to be granted in the Conservation Zone after lodgement of a land claim and to allow such interests to be granted if land in the Conservation Zone becomes vested with the traditional Aboriginal owners.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is not expected there will be additional costs incurred by the Department of Local Government and Administrative Services in issuing exploration and mining licences. Economic benefits are likely to accrue through the granting of licences.

LANDS ACQUISITION AMENDMENT BILL
NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1 - Short Title etc

This is a formal provision. It provides for citation of the Act and for a reference in the Act to "the Principal Act" to be read as a reference to the Lands Acquisitions Act 1955

Clause 2 - Commencement

This clause provides that the legislation will come into operation on the day the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Amendment Act (No2) 1987 receives Royal Assent.

Clause 3 - Interpretation

This clause amends Section 5 of the Principal Act which provides for the interpretation of certain words and phrases. The amendments insert -

- (a) the definition of "Gimbat and Goodparla";
- (b) the definition of "mineral"; and
- (c) the definition of "Northern Territory pastoral lease area".

Clause 4 - Mining Leases and Licences

This clause amends Section 51 of the Principal Act to provide for:

- (a) the newly inserted definition of "mineral"; and
- (b) the granting of a lease or licence to mine for minerals on land that is in a conservation zone within the Northern Territory pastoral lease area (Gimbat and Goodparla) and allow such interests to be granted after lodgement of a land claim or if land in the conservation zone should be vested with the traditional Aboriginal owners.

Clause 5 - Disposal of Land

This clause amends Section 53 of the Principal Act to provide for:

- (a) the newly inserted definition of "mineral"; and
- (b) the granting of a right to explore for minerals on land that is in a conservation zone within the Northern Territory pastoral lease area (Gimbat and Goodparla) and allow such rights to be granted after lodgement of a land claim or if land in the conservation zone should be vested with the traditional Aboriginal owners.