

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

STATUTORY RULE NO. 220 of 1983

Issued by the Authority of the Minister
of State for Transport

Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Regulations

The Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981 and regulations will, following proclamation, provide the legislative basis for the administration of Australia's obligations under the International Convention Relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Oil Pollution Casualties, 1969 and the Protocol Relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Pollution by Substances other than Oil, 1983.

The new regulations make provision for the means of notification of any change in ownership or master of a ship which is involved in a pollution incident in which the Minister has intervened in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The new regulations also empower the Minister to amend, by order, the list of noxious substances in relation to which intervention action may be taken.

Instruments accepting the Convention and Protocol referred to above are expected to be lodged with the International Maritime Organisation in London in November 1983. A waiting period of 90 days from that date must elapse before the Convention will come into force for Australia. The Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981 will be proclaimed to come into force on the 90th day following Australian acceptance of the Convention and Protocol.

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