

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

STATUTORY RULE NO.222 OF 1983

Issued by the Authority of the Minister  
of State for Transport

Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981  
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Regulations

The Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981 and regulations will, following proclamation, provide the legislative basis for the administration of Australia's obligations under the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969 and its 1976 Protocol.

The new regulations prescribe the form of application for issue of a certificate and the form of the certificate required by the Convention and the Act to be carried on ships which have on board more than 2000 tons of oil in bulk as cargo. The certificate required by the Act attests to the existence of insurance to the limit of liability for oil pollution damage of the ship.

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 and Protocol will come into force for Australia. The Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981 and the regulations will be proclaimed to come into force on the 90th day following Australian acceptance of the Convention and Protocol.

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