

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Issued by Authority of the Minister for Regional Health

Industrial Chemicals Act 2019

Industrial Chemicals (General) Rules 2019

Industrial Chemicals (General) Amendment (Minamata Convention on Mercury) Rules 2021

The *Industrial Chemicals Act 2019* (the IC Act) establishes the legislative framework for a risk-based scheme for the Commonwealth regulation of the introduction of industrial chemicals in Australia. The *Industrial Chemicals (General) Rules 2019* (the IC Rules) form part of the legislative framework to establish a risk-based regulatory scheme for the introduction of industrial chemicals in Australia.

The *Industrial Chemicals (General) Amendment (Minamata Convention on Mercury) Rules 2021* (the Amendment Rules) amend the IC Rules to implement Australia's obligations under Articles 3(6) and 3(8) of the Minamata Convention on Mercury (the Minamata Convention), once that Convention comes into force for Australia.

The details of the Amendment Rules are set out in the initial Explanatory Statement.

The purpose of this Supplementary Explanatory Statement is to provide additional information on consultation taken in relation to the Amendment Rules.

Extensive consultation was undertaken in relation to the ratification of the Minamata Convention. The details of this consultation are outlined in the initial Explanatory Statement.

The Amendment Rules only introduces measures that are necessary for the purposes of Australia ratifying and implementing the Minamata Convention. Therefore, specific public consultation on the Amendment Rules was not undertaken as the potential impacts of the measures contained in the Amendment Rules had already been widely consulted on.

The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade were consulted during the development of the Amendment Rules.