



AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM PRODUCTION & EXPLORATION  
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24 August 2007

The Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Economics  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

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Dear Sir/Madam

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**Re: INQUIRY INTO OFFSHORE PETROLEUM AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES) BILL 2007**

INTERNET  
<http://www.appea.com.au>

Thank you for your letter dated 17 August 2007 requesting submissions to the Offshore Petroleum Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2007.

EMAIL  
[appea@appea.com.au](mailto:appea@appea.com.au)

We note that this Bill makes the following three amendments to the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006*, as indicated in your letter, which are technical in nature:

- it clarifies the nature the definition of 'coastal waters' in the Offshore Constitutional Settlement, and ensures that an indefinite term applies to those who first renewed their licences following amendments to the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967* in 1998;
- it repeals section 327 of the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006*, which gave the Minister certain emergency powers in the Bass Strait. A more comprehensive and broader security regime has been implemented under the *Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Securities Act 2003*; and
- it converts geodetic data references of area descriptions in the Act from Australian Geodetic Datum (AGD66) to Geodetic Datum of Australia (GDA94).

On the basis that these amendments are primarily technical APPEA supports the intent of the Bill.

Please contact Mr Rangarajan Parimala on 02 6267 0910 or [rparimala@appea.com.au](mailto:rparimala@appea.com.au) for further details in relation to this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Robinson  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**