



**Australian Government**

**Department of Industry  
Tourism and Resources**

**Maritime Law Association of Australia and New Zealand  
27 September 2007**

**Bob Pegler**

**General Manager**

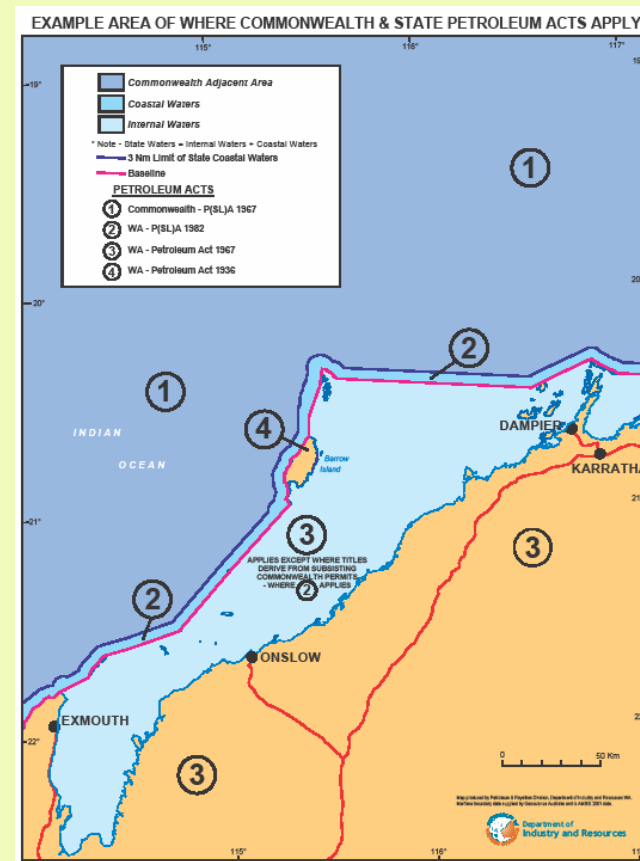
**Offshore Resources Branch**

**Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources**



# Petroleum Jurisdictions

- Onshore and less than 3 nautical miles (coastal waters):
  - State & NT Governments
- Greater than 3 nautical miles:
  - Commonwealth Government, but areas administered jointly with State/NT Governments





## International obligations and agreements

- Vessels have right of free passage
- Joint Petroleum Development Area
- MoU Box
- Perth Treaty





## Offshore Administration

- *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967 (PSLA)*
  - regulates petroleum activities in Australian offshore areas
  - will be replaced by *Offshore Petroleum Act*
- Relevant Ministers have wide powers
  - exercised under Joint Authority and Designated Authority arrangements
  - powers delegated to officials



# Offshore Petroleum Joint Authorities

## AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

The Hon Ian Macfarlane MP

DEPARTMENT OF  
INDUSTRY, TOURISM &  
RESOURCES (DITR)

Resources  
Division

Policy/Admin

Geoscience  
Australia

Technical advice

## STATE/NT GOVERNMENT

Resources Minister

STATE RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT

Petroleum  
Division

Policy & Technical





## Joint Authorities

- Responsible for all major decisions
- Key JA powers include:
  - release of offshore areas
  - bid assessment
  - grant (or refusal) of titles, incl renewals
  - suspension/ variation of title conditions
  - extensions to permit or lease terms
  - cancellation of a title
- Decisions made jointly, but if no agreement, the Commonwealth Minister has the final say.



## Designated Authorities

- DA's responsible for day-to-day administration
- The key DA powers include:
  - receiving reports and applications
  - advising of JA & DA decisions
  - collecting fees
  - declaring safety zones
  - declaring a location over a discovery
  - granting Access Authorities & SPAs; and
  - approving transfers and dealings



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## Three Major Forms of Title

- **Exploration Permit**
- **Production Licence**
  - indefinite term
  - commercial recovery of petroleum
- **Retention Lease**
  - 5 year term (renewable)
  - security of title for resources not currently commercial



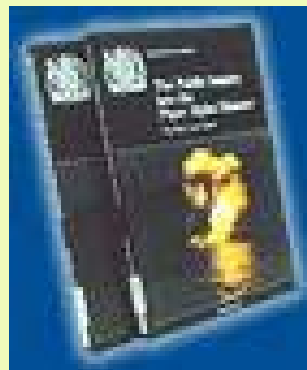


## Learning from others

Robens Report, Health  
and Safety at Work 1972

Australian review into  
safety management  
arrangements 2000

Cullen Enquiry,  
Piper Alpha 1990



DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESOURCES  
Offshore Safety and Security, Petroleum and Electricity Division

AUSTRALIAN OFFSHORE PETROLEUM SAFETY CASE REVIEW  
FEBRUARY-MARCH 2000 STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

Report of the  
Independent  
Review Team

Odd Bjerre Finnestad  
Magne Ognedal  
Ed Spence



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# National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Maritime Safety Authority**



**Australian Government**  
**Civil Aviation Safety Authority**



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## Environment Assessors' Forum





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**Thank you**