

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
RADIATION ORDINANCE 1983

No. 58, 1983

The Radiation Ordinance 1983 provides for the safe use, transportation and disposal of radioactive materials and of irradiating apparatus which emits ionizing radiation. This Ordinance binds the Crown and supersedes the Fluoroscopes Ordinance 1958 which has therefore been repealed.

Part II of the Ordinance establishes a Radiation Council which is responsible for administering the Ordinance. Part II also gives the Minister for Health the power to appoint inspectors who will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Ordinance.

Part III of the Ordinance prohibits unlicensed activities in relation to radioactive material and irradiating apparatus and gives the Radiation Council the power to grant licences. Licences are subject to conditions specified in the licence, last for 12 months although they may be renewed and may be cancelled for safety reasons or failure to comply with a condition of the licence. The duties of licensees are set out in detail. Licensees may appoint Radiation Safety Officers to carry out many of these duties. Radiation workers are required to observe safety procedures and the Council may require licensees, Radiation Safety Officers and radiation workers to submit to medical examinations. The Council may also require persons who have received doses of radiation in excess of the relevant dose equivalent limit not to perform certain work.

Part IV requires the registration of irradiating apparatus which is not acquired for sale or hire. Registration remains in force for 12 months and may be renewed. Registered irradiating apparatus must not be materially altered without the

approval of the Council. Registration may be cancelled where the location, installation or shielding of the apparatus or the apparatus itself has been modified without approval or the apparatus is dangerous or requires repair or modification.

Part V requires specified types of radioactive material to be transported in accordance with the safety precautions set out in this part. Limits are placed on the contents of packages, packages must be kept separate from the public, limits are placed on the number of packages that can be grouped together and packages are required to carry prescribed labels and descriptive documents. The use of leaking packages is prohibited. Packages must be secured during transportation and must not be materially altered in the course of transportation. Vehicles carrying packages subject to the controls must carry warning signs and persons other than drivers or their assistants are prohibited from riding on these vehicles.

Part VI permits the Radiation Council to approve the storage of radioactive material by persons other than licensees. Persons who store radioactive material are required to display prescribed warning signs. This part also controls the disposal of radioactive material.

Part VII covers miscellaneous matters. Amongst other things, it prohibits the use of fluoroscopes in fitting footwear, provides for appeals against decisions of the Radiation Council to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and requires the Council to prepare an annual report.

Ord No. 77/81

Rid
6/1/84