



Australian Capital Territory

Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (ACT) Act 2015

A2015-4

Republication No 1

Effective: 3 March 2015 – 25 November 2025

Republication date: 3 March 2015

Act not amended

About this republication

The republished law

This is a republication of the *Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (ACT) Act 2015* (including any amendment made under the [Legislation Act 2001](#), part 11.3 (Editorial changes)) as in force on 3 March 2015. It also includes any commencement, repeal or expiry affecting this republished law.

The legislation history and amendment history of the republished law are set out in endnotes 3 and 4.

Kinds of republications

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office prepares 2 kinds of republications of ACT laws (see the ACT legislation register at www.legislation.act.gov.au):

- authorised republications to which the [Legislation Act 2001](#) applies
- unauthorised republications.

The status of this republication appears on the bottom of each page.

Editorial changes

The [Legislation Act 2001](#), part 11.3 authorises the Parliamentary Counsel to make editorial amendments and other changes of a formal nature when preparing a law for republication. Editorial changes do not change the effect of the law, but have effect as if they had been made by an Act commencing on the republication date (see [Legislation Act 2001](#), s 115 and s 117). The changes are made if the Parliamentary Counsel considers they are desirable to bring the law into line, or more closely into line, with current legislative drafting practice.

This republication does not include amendments made under part 11.3 (see endnote 1).

Uncommenced provisions and amendments

If a provision of the republished law has not commenced, the symbol **U** appears immediately before the provision heading. Any uncommenced amendments that affect this republished law are accessible on the ACT legislation register (www.legislation.act.gov.au). For more information, see the home page for this law on the register.

Modifications

If a provision of the republished law is affected by a current modification, the symbol **M** appears immediately before the provision heading. The text of the modifying provision appears in the endnotes. For the legal status of modifications, see the [Legislation Act 2001](#), section 95.

Penalties

At the republication date, the value of a penalty unit for an offence against this law is \$150 for an individual and \$750 for a corporation (see [Legislation Act 2001](#), s 133).



Australian Capital Territory

Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (ACT) Act 2015

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Australian Capital Territory

Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (ACT) Act 2015

An Act to apply as a law of the Territory a national law relating to water efficiency labelling and standards, and for other purposes

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Act

This Act is the *Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (ACT) Act 2015*.

3 Object of Act

- (1) The object of this Act is to adopt in the Territory a uniform national approach to the regulation of water efficiency labelling and standards.
- (2) This Act—
 - (a) applies the Commonwealth water efficiency laws as a law of the Territory; and
 - (b) makes provision to enable the Commonwealth water efficiency laws and the applied provisions to be administered on a uniform basis by the Commonwealth as if they constituted a single law of the Commonwealth.

4 Dictionary

The dictionary at the end of this Act is part of this Act.

Note 1 The dictionary at the end of this Act defines certain terms used in this Act, and includes references (*signpost definitions*) to other terms defined elsewhere in this Act.

For example, the signpost definition '*applied provisions*—see section 8 (1).' means that the term 'applied provisions' is defined in that section.

Note 2 A definition in the dictionary (including a signpost definition) applies to the entire Act unless the definition, or another provision of the Act, provides otherwise or the contrary intention otherwise appears (see [Legislation Act](#), s 155 and s 156 (1)).

5 Notes

A note included in this Act is explanatory and is not part of this Act.

Note See the [Legislation Act](#), s 127 (1), (4) and (5) for the legal status of notes.

6 Terms used in Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005 (Cwlth)

Terms used in this Act and also in the [Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005](#) (Cwlth) have the same meanings in this Act as they have in that Act.

7 References to Commonwealth Acts

In this Act, a reference to a Commonwealth Act includes a reference to—

- (a) the Commonwealth Act, as in force from time to time; and
- (b) if another Act is substituted for the Commonwealth Act—the substituted Act, as in force from time to time.

Part 2 Applied provisions

8 Application of Commonwealth laws as a law of Territory

- (1) The Commonwealth water efficiency laws, as in force from time to time and as modified by or under this Act including schedule 1, (the *applied provisions*), apply as a law of the Territory.
- (2) The Commonwealth water efficiency laws apply as if they extended to matters in relation to which the Territory may make laws—
 - (a) whether or not the Commonwealth may make laws in relation to those matters; and
 - (b) even though the Commonwealth water efficiency laws provide that they apply only to stated matters in relation to which the Commonwealth may make laws.

9 Modification of Commonwealth water efficiency laws

- (1) A regulation under this Act may also modify the Commonwealth water efficiency laws for this Act.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), a regulation may provide that the Commonwealth water efficiency laws apply under section 8 (1) as if an amendment to the Commonwealth water efficiency laws made by the Commonwealth and stated in the regulation had not taken effect.

10 Interpretation of applied provisions

- (1) The *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* (Cwlth) applies as a law of the Territory in relation to the interpretation of the applied provisions, and applies as if the applied provisions were a Commonwealth Act or were regulations or other instruments under a Commonwealth Act, as the case requires.

- (2) The [Legislation Act](#) does not apply to the applied provisions.

Note Despite the [Legislation Act](#) not applying to the applied provisions, it applies to this Act and to instruments made under this Act.

Part 3 Functions under applied provisions

11 Functions of Commonwealth Regulator and other authorities and officers

The Commonwealth Regulator and other authorities and officers mentioned in the applied provisions have the same functions under the applied provisions as they have under the Commonwealth water efficiency laws, as those laws apply to the Commonwealth.

Note 1 **Function** includes authority, duty and power (see [Legislation Act](#), dict, pt 1).

Note 2 A provision of a law that gives an entity (including a person) a function also gives the entity powers necessary and convenient to exercise the function (see [Legislation Act](#), s 196 and dict, pt 1, def *entity*).

12 Delegations by Commonwealth Regulator

Any delegation by the Commonwealth Regulator under the [Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005](#) (Cwlth) is taken to extend to, and have effect for the corresponding provision of the applied provisions.

Part 4 Offences

13 Object of pt 4

- (1) The object of this part is to further the object of this Act by providing for an offence against the applied provisions to be treated as if it were an offence against a law of the Commonwealth.
- (2) The purposes for which an offence is to be treated as mentioned in subsection (1) include, for example—
 - (a) the investigation and prosecution of offences; and
 - (b) the arrest, custody, bail, trial and conviction of offenders or people charged with offences; and
 - (c) proceedings relating to a matter mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b); and
 - (d) appeals and reviews relating to criminal proceedings and to proceedings of the kind mentioned in paragraph (c); and
 - (e) the sentencing, punishment and release of people convicted of offences; and
 - (f) fines, penalties and forfeitures; and
 - (g) infringement notices in relation to offences; and
 - (h) liability to make reparation in relation to offences; and
 - (i) proceeds of crime; and
 - (j) spent convictions.

Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see [Legislation Act](#), s 126 and s 132).

14 Application of Commonwealth criminal laws to offences against applied provisions

- (1) The relevant Commonwealth laws apply as laws of the Territory in relation to an offence against the applied provisions as if those provisions were a law of the Commonwealth and not a law of the Territory.
- (2) For a law of the Territory, an offence against the applied provisions—
 - (a) is taken to be an offence against the laws of the Commonwealth, in the same way as if those provisions were a law of the Commonwealth; and
 - (b) is taken not to be an offence against the laws of the Territory.
- (3) Subsection (2) has effect for a law of the Territory other than as provided by a regulation made under this Act.

15 Functions conferred on Commonwealth officers and authorities relating to offences

- (1) A Commonwealth law applying because of section 14 that confers on a Commonwealth officer or authority a function in relation to an offence against the Commonwealth water efficiency laws also confers on the officer or authority the same function in relation to an offence against the corresponding provision of the applied provisions.

- (2) In exercising a function conferred by this section, the Commonwealth officer or authority must act as nearly as practicable as the officer or authority would act in exercising the same function in relation to an offence against the corresponding provision of the Commonwealth water efficiency laws.

Note 1 **Function** includes authority, duty and power (see [Legislation Act](#), dict, pt 1).

Note 2 A provision of a law that gives an entity (including a person) a function also gives the entity powers necessary and convenient to exercise the function (see [Legislation Act](#), s 196 and dict, pt 1, def *entity*).

16 **No double jeopardy for offences against applied provisions**

An offender is not liable to be punished for an offence under the applied provisions if—

- (a) the act or omission is an offence against both the applied provisions and the Commonwealth water efficiency laws; and
- (b) the offender has been punished for the offence under the Commonwealth water efficiency laws.

Part 5 Administrative laws

17 Application of Commonwealth administrative laws to applied provisions

- (1) The Commonwealth administrative laws apply as laws of the Territory to any matter arising in relation to the applied provisions as if those provisions were a law of the Commonwealth and not a law of the Territory.
- (2) For a law of the Territory, a matter arising in relation to the applied provisions—
 - (a) is taken to be a matter arising in relation to laws of the Commonwealth, in the same way as if those provisions were a law of the Commonwealth; and
 - (b) is taken not to be a matter arising in relation to laws of the Territory.
- (3) Subsection (2) has effect for a law of the Territory other than as provided by a regulation made under this Act.
- (4) Any provision of a Commonwealth administrative law applying because of this section that purports to confer jurisdiction on a federal court is taken not to have that effect.
- (5) For this section, a reference in a provision of the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975* (Cwlth) (as that provision applies as a law of this jurisdiction) to the whole or any part of that [Act](#), part 4A (Appeals and references of questions of law to the Federal Court of Australia) is taken to be a reference to the whole or any part of that part as it has effect as a law of the Commonwealth.

18 Functions conferred on Commonwealth officers and authorities

- (1) A Commonwealth administrative law applying because of section 17 that confers on a Commonwealth officer or authority a function also confers on the officer or authority the same function in relation to a matter arising in relation to the applied provisions.
- (2) In exercising a function conferred by this section, the Commonwealth officer or authority must act as nearly as practicable as the officer or authority would act in exercising the same function under the Commonwealth administrative law.

Note 1 **Function** includes authority, duty and power (see [Legislation Act](#), dict, pt 1).

Note 2 A provision of a law that gives an entity (including a person) a function also gives the entity powers necessary and convenient to exercise the function (see [Legislation Act](#), s 196 and dict, pt 1, def *entity*).

Part 6 Miscellaneous

19 Things done for multiple purposes

The validity of a licence, certificate or other thing issued, given or done for the applied provisions is not affected only because it was issued, given or done also for the Commonwealth water efficiency laws.

20 Reference in Commonwealth law to provision of another law

For section 14 and section 17, a reference in a Commonwealth law to a provision of that or another Commonwealth law is taken to be a reference to that provision as applying because of those sections.

21 Fees and other money

All fees, penalties, fines and other money that, under this Act and the applied provisions, are authorised or directed to be payable by or imposed on any person (but not including an amount ordered to be refunded to another person) must be paid to the Commonwealth.

22 Regulation-making power

- (1) The Executive may make regulations for this Act.

Note A regulation must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the [Legislation Act](#).

- (2) A regulation may create offences and fix maximum penalties of not more than 30 penalty units for the offences.

Part 7 Repeal and transitional

24 Transitional

- (1) On the commencement day, anything that was in effect in relation to the [repealed Act](#) immediately before the commencement day becomes a thing with the same effect in relation to this Act and the applied provisions.

- (2) In this section:

commencement day means the day this Act, section 8 commences.

repealed Act means the [Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005](#).

Schedule 1 Modifications—Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005 (Cwlth)

(see s 8)

[1.1] Section 51 (3)

omit

Penalty: Imprisonment for 6 months.

substitute

Maximum penalty: 60 penalty units.

[1.2] Section 61 (3)

omit

Penalty: Imprisonment for 6 months.

substitute

Maximum penalty: 60 penalty units.

[1.3] Section 62 (3) and (4)

omit

Penalty: Imprisonment for 6 months.

substitute

Maximum penalty: 60 penalty units.

Dictionary

(see s 4)

Note 1 The [Legislation Act](#) contains definitions and other provisions relevant to this Act.

Note 2 For example, the [Legislation Act](#), dict, pt 1, defines the following terms:

- Commonwealth
- Executive
- exercise
- function
- in relation to
- power
- regulation
- the Territory.

applied provisions—see section 8 (1).

Commonwealth administrative laws means the following Commonwealth Acts and regulations:

- (a) the [Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975](#) (excluding part 4A);
- (b) the [Freedom of Information Act 1982](#);
- (c) the [Ombudsman Act 1976](#);
- (d) the [Privacy Act 1988](#);
- (e) the regulations in force under any of those Acts.

Commonwealth Regulator means the Regulator under the [Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005](#) (Cwlth), section 21.

Commonwealth water efficiency laws means—

- (a) the [*Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005*](#) (Cwlth);
and
- (b) all regulations, guidelines, principles, standards and codes of practice in force under that Act.

modify includes add to, omit and substitute.

offence includes a contravention for which a civil penalty may be imposed.

Endnotes

1 About the endnotes

Amending and modifying laws are annotated in the legislation history and the amendment history. Current modifications are not included in the republished law but are set out in the endnotes.

Not all editorial amendments made under the *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 are annotated in the amendment history. Full details of any amendments can be obtained from the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

Uncommenced amending laws are not included in the republished law. The details of these laws are underlined in the legislation history. Uncommenced expiries are underlined in the legislation history and amendment history.

If all the provisions of the law have been renumbered, a table of renumbered provisions gives details of previous and current numbering.

The endnotes also include a table of earlier republications.

2 Abbreviation key

A = Act	NI = Notifiable instrument
AF = Approved form	o = order
am = amended	om = omitted/repealed
amdt = amendment	ord = ordinance
AR = Assembly resolution	orig = original
ch = chapter	par = paragraph/subparagraph
CN = Commencement notice	pres = present
def = definition	prev = previous
DI = Disallowable instrument	(prev...) = previously
dict = dictionary	pt = part
disallowed = disallowed by the Legislative Assembly	r = rule/subrule
div = division	reloc = relocated
exp = expires/expired	renum = renumbered
Gaz = gazette	R[X] = Republication No
hdg = heading	RI = reissue
IA = Interpretation Act 1967	s = section/subsection
ins = inserted/added	sch = schedule
LA = Legislation Act 2001	sdiv = subdivision
LR = legislation register	SL = Subordinate law
LRA = Legislation (Republication) Act 1996	sub = substituted
mod = modified/modification	<u>underlining</u> = whole or part not commenced or to be expired

Endnotes

3 Legislation history

3 Legislation history

Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (ACT) Act 2015 A2015-4

notified LR 2 March 2015

s 1, s 2 commenced 2 March 2015 (LA s 75 (1))

remainder commenced 3 March 2015 (s 2)

4 Amendment history

Commencement

s 2 om LA s 89 (4)

Legislation repealed

s 23 om LA s 89 (3)

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