AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT 1989

EXPOSURE STANDARDS FOR ATMOSPHERIC CONTAMINANTS IN THE OCCUPATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND GUIDANCE NOTE

NO 126 OF 1992

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Under section 87(1) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 1989, the Minister may approve a code of practice for the purpose of providing practical guidance to employers, self-employed persons and employees. Under section 87(3) of the ACT Occupational Health and Safety Act 1989, an approved code may consist of any code, standard, rule, specification or provision relating to occupational health and safety (OHS).

This instrument is written pursuant to section 87 of the <u>Act</u> and addresses a deficiency which existed in the <u>Act</u> and associated legislation in that they did not provide detailed exposure standards and guidance to prevent and/or reduce the severity of occupational related disease resulting from occupational exposure to atmospheric contaminants in the ACT.

The instrument is based on the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission's standard and guidance note document titled "Exposure Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment: 2nd edition" (1991). The instrument has gone through the process of discussion by a tripartite working party and has been referred to the ACT OHS Council in accordance with section 87(2) of the ACT Occupational Health and Safety Act 1989.

The instrument establishes practical guidance to those associated with workplaces in the ACT as to the safe use, monitoring, assessment and control of atmospheric contaminants in the occupational environment.

Approved by Wayne Bruce Berry Deputy Chief Minister

2 June 1992/