

**1996**

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**ELECTRICITY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1996**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

Circulated by authority of  
Tony De Domenico MLA  
Minister for Urban Services

## OUTLINE

The Electricity (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill modifies provisions of the Electricity Act 1971 (the principal Act) for the licensing of electrical contractors and electricians and the inspection of electrical installations.

The principal Act was amended in 1994 to replace licensing by the former ACTEW Authority with licensing by an Electrical Licensing Board. During the first month after the amending legislation came into force on 5 October 1994, the Authority continued to issue licences and these licences are now to be validated.

When ACTEW became a corporation in 1995, responsibility for the inspection of customers' electrical installations was transferred to the Department of Urban Services. The principal Act is to be amended to transfer the right to appoint electrical inspectors from the ACTEW Corporation to the Chief Executive of the Department of Urban Services. Transitional arrangements were made by Regulations under the Electricity and Water (Corporatisation) (Consequential Provisions) Act 1995.

Other amendments provide for the exemption of electrical installations from inspection and are intended to deal with the implication that the principal Act requires the Department of Urban Services to inspect electrical installations that are part of ACTEW's distribution system.

## Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

## CLAUSE NOTES

### Clauses 1, 2 and 3

Clauses 1 and 2 deal with the title and the commencement of the Bill and Clause 3 identifies the Act being amended and establishes definitions for the purposes of the Bill.

### Clause 4

Clause 4 adds to the principal Act a definition of "Company" as the ACTEW Corporation Limited.

### Clause 5

Section 33 of the principal Act deals with the inspection of electrical installations. Clause 5 rewords this section, replaces a reference to the appointment of inspectors by an officer of ACTEW with one to appointment by the Chief Executive administering the Act and introduces a power to exempt kinds of electrical installation from the need for inspection.

**Clause 6**

Clause 6 validates the grant of electrical contractors' and electricians' licences between 5 October 1994 and 8 November 1994.

**Clause 7**

Clause 7 validates the renewal of electrical contractors' and electricians' licences between 5 October 1994 and 8 November 1994 and the appointment of electrical inspectors by the Chief Executive of the Department of Urban Services after 1 July 1995.

**Clause 8**

Clause 8 repeals the Electricity and Water (Modification) Regulations 1995.