

2003

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

ROAD TRANSPORT (GENERAL) ACT 1999

**ROAD TRANSPORT (GENERAL) DECLARATION THAT THE ROAD
TRANSPORT LEGISLATION DOES NOT APPLY TO CERTAIN ROADS
AND ROAD RELATED AREAS 2003 (No.7)**

DISALLOWABLE INSTRUMENT DI2003– 267

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Circulated by authority of

Bill Wood MLA
Minister for Urban Services

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Subsection 12(1) of the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999* (the Act) empowers the Minister to declare that the road transport legislation does not apply to a road or road related area. Subsection 12(3) of the Act makes such a declaration a disallowable instrument.

This instrument declares that the road transport legislation does not apply to the ACT roads and road related areas used when vehicles are competing in the ACT timed special (ie competitive) stages of the Brindabella Motor Sport Club 2003 “Caltex Airport Starmart Rally” on 20 September 2003. Two of these special stages take place on the on forest roads in the Kowen area. All competing vehicles are road registered and have compulsory third party (CTP) insurance.

The event is held under the auspices of the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS). The CAMS Motor Sport Policy provides up to \$100 million of general liability cover for any one occurrence, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of the Policy. In particular, the CAMS Policy excludes participant-to-participant claims for drivers, entrants or crew in competing vehicles. However, this Policy does not operate where CTP insurance is in force, except where specifically excluded by law.

The declaration removes the CTP provisions from applying during the special stages of the event. This enables the CAMS liability insurance to take over responsibility for motor accident injury claims arising from the event.

The declaration does not affect the right of an injured person to claim against the CTP insurer of a vehicle causing injury or the Nominal Defendant. The declaration does not override the contract between the insured (ie the owner/driver of the vehicle) and the ACT CTP insurer (ie Insurance Australia Limited, trading as NRMA Insurance). It does, however, remove an element of cross-subsidisation of motor sport participants by the general motoring community by shifting any injury claim costs from the NRMA and Nominal Defendant (and ultimately ACT motorists) to the CAMS insurer.

The declaration also has the effect of suspending the road rules during the special stages of the event.