
9 Northern Territory

9.1 Guide to the Northern Territory legislation review schedule

Legislation Review

The Northern Territory Government has published a program for reviewing all existing Northern Territory legislation that might contain anti-competitive provisions. The Northern Territory maintains a database for recording progress of reviews and reform implementation, and updates the database annually in July. Currently, there are 85 separate reviews scheduled.

In 1996, the Northern Territory circulated *1996-2000 National Competition Policy: Guidelines for Legislation Review* to all government agencies, outlining their CPA obligations and the review processes required to satisfy those obligations.

Progress to 31 December 1998

Some 26 reviews were complete by the end of 1998. Of these, nine were awaiting a Government response and five found no restrictions on competition. Of the reviews incomplete at that stage, 12 were nearing completion and eight were in the final phase of planned 3 stage reviews. Two of these were part of national review processes and two Acts were expected to be repealed. The Northern Territory identified two reviews relating to the functions of the Territory Insurance Office (TIO) which are expected to be subject to further external review.

The Government announced its response to 12 reviews, repealing 11 pieces of legislation. Reform highlights include:

- Repeal of the *Grain Marketing Act* and the subsequent dissolution of the Grain Marketing Board will facilitate rationalisation in the Northern Territory grain industry.
- Reforms to the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Act* removed the restrictions on the number of taxi licences.
- The *Building Societies Act and Regulations* was repealed and building societies will be registered under the *Financial Institutions (NT) Code* as part of a national scheme of legislation.
- Repeal of the *Stock (Artificial Breeding) Act and Regulations* had removed restrictions on insemination and siring.

The Government had also endorsed the review recommendations for partial reform of the *Financial Management Act*, which governs the investment of Government funds. The Government agreed to broaden the types of financial institutions able to hold a

Government account beyond banks to institutions with a suitable published credit rating.

Of the reviews scheduled for completion by the end of 1998, only four reviews were not commenced: the *Mining Act* was deferred pending the outcome of Native Title amendments, while the others are to be included in national review processes.

9.2 Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in the 'Agency' column of the Northern Territory legislation review timetable.

AG	Attorney-General's Department
DPA	Darwin Port Authority
FID	Financial Institution Duty
DIB	Department of Industries and Business
LG	Department of Local Government
LPE	Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
ME	Department of Mines and Energy
NCP	National Competition Policy
NTT	NT Treasury
PAWA	Power and Water Authority
PFES	Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Services
PIF	Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries
PW	Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT
TDZ	Trade Development Zone
THS	Territory Health Services
TIO	Territory Insurance Office
TPA	<i>Trade Practices Act 1974</i>
TW	Department of Transport & Works
WHA	Work Health Authority

9.3 Legislation review schedule: Northern Territory

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Abattoirs and Slaughtering Act</i> and Regulations	PIF	Targeted review. Establishes licensing regime and standards for premises etc - Slaughter of buffalo (Regulation 7), Abattoir licence (Regulation 5).	30/06/97	1997	Repealed and replaced by <i>Meat Industries Act</i> , which commenced December 1997.
<i>Agent's Licensing Act</i>	AG	Real Estate Agent's Licence (s11), Agent's Representative Registration (s 12), Conveyancing Agent's Licence.	Stage 1 30/06/97 Stage2 30/06/98 Stage 3 30/06/99		Review underway.
<i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (NT) Act</i>	PIF	NT is party to national review of Act and complementary legislation in other jurisdictions. To apply certain laws of the Commonwealth relating to agricultural and veterinary chemical products as laws of the NT			National review complete. A SCARM/ARMCANZ working group is considering the recommendations.
<i>Architects Act</i>	LPE	General review. Architect's Registration, Certifying Architects Registration (Part 3).	30/06/97	1998	National review commenced by Productivity Commission in November 1999. State review complete, however, recommendations to be amended pending outcome of national review.
<i>Auctioneer's Act</i>	DIB	Auctioneer's Licence (s 4) and Auctioneer's Clerk Licence (s 8E).	30/06/97		Review underway.

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Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Building Act</i>	LPE	Targeted review. Licensing issues.	30/06/97		Review underway. NCP amendments, if applicable, to be introduced in Legislative Assembly in 1999. Provides for the establishment of technical standards for buildings, the registration of building practitioners and certifiers, the regulation of building matters (including the registration of building products), the granting of permits and the establishment of appeals processes.
<i>Building Societies Act and Regulations</i>	AG	Registration of a Building Society (s 14(1)), Registration of Building Societies (Regulation 2) and licensing issues.	30/06/97	1997	Repealed May 1998. Building Societies currently registered under Financial Institutions (NT) Code as part of a national legislative scheme.
<i>Business Franchise Act</i>	NTT	Targeted review. Licence to sell tobacco or petroleum products (s 14)	30/06/98	1998	Review complete. Licensing and registration requirements are not considered to restrict competition
<i>Caravan Parks Act</i>	LG	General review. Regulates caravan parks. Only applies to some parts of the Territory. May create anti-competitive effects between controlled and uncontrolled areas.	31/12/97	1998	Review completed and ready for Government consideration.
<i>Cemeteries Act and Regulations</i>	LG	Provides for the establishment (s 6), maintenance and control of cemeteries. Approval for the establishment of cemeteries by the Administrator. No clear guidelines, approvals could be applied anti-competitively.	30/06/97	1998	Review complete. Recommendations are being progressed for Cabinet consideration.
<i>Classification of Publications, Films & Computer Games Act</i>	AG	Review of prohibition concerning the manufacture of 'X' style videos in NT.	30/06/97		Review underway.
<i>Commercial and Private Agents Licensing Act</i>	AG	Commercial Agent's Licence (s 5(a)), Process Server Licence (s 5(c)), Inquiry Agent's Licence (s 5(b)), Private Bailiff Licence (s 5(d)).	30/06/97		Review completed. However, a comprehensive review of the Act will revisit NCP issues.

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Commercial Passenger (Road) Act</i>	TW	Targeted review. Tourist vehicle licence (s 52), Accreditation of a commercial passenger operator (part 3), Taxi licensing (part 4), Taxi licence (Div 1), Substitute taxi licence (Div 2), Supplementary taxi licence (Div 3) Private hire car licence (s 32) - Motor omnibus licence (part 6) Pioneer routes (s 46) Urban service areas (s 47) Prohibiting a restricting service (s 49) - Tourist vehicle licence (s 52) - Special passenger vehicle licence (s 58)	30/06/98		Competition issues addressed in the <i>Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Amendment Act 1998</i> , to be commenced January 1999.
<i>Community Welfare Act</i>	THS	Targeted review. Provides for the protection and welfare of children etc. Licensing of childcare centres (Div 2).	31/12/98		
<i>Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act (NT Regulations) and Amendment Act 1996</i>	DIB	Sundry fair play provisions regarding the regulation of advertising, banning of potentially unsafe goods etc. Travel Agent's Licence (Schedule 1), Credit Providers Licence, Pawnbrokers and Second Hand Dealers Licence, Motor Vehicle Dealers Licence and Tow truck code.	31/12/98		Review underway.

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations</i>	DIB	Targeted review. Sets requirements for the transport, storage and handling of dangerous goods. Business licences to manufacture, store, convey, sell, import or possess prescribed dangerous goods (s 15 - 21). Operators' licences for: drivers of dangerous goods vehicles (Regulation 56); shofirers (Regulation 132); gas fitters (Regulation 172); and autogas fitters (Regulation 202).	31/12/96	1997	Review complete. Act repealed and new <i>Dangerous Goods Act</i> assented to 30 March 1998. Draft regulations being prepared, expected to be tabled early 1999.
<i>Darwin Port Authority Act</i>	DPC	Targeted review. Establishes the Darwin Port Authority. Prescribes functions and powers: monopoly powers; licensing arrangements and fees; and issue of stevedoring licence. Charge for issue of renewal (Part II, s 17 (p) (q)), control of shipping movements in port (Part III, s 29), application for stevedoring licence (s 38), cancellation or suspension of stevedoring licence by Minister (s 39), exemption from local government charges (Part IV, s 45)	Ss 29, 45 30/06/97; Ss 17(p)(q), 38, 39 30/06/98		Review underway.
<i>Dental Act</i>	THS	Full review. Establishes the registration board and registration requirements.	30/06/97		Framework for new legislation to be prepared taking account of NCP issues. Completion expected December 1998.
<i>Electrical Workers and Contractors Act</i>	DIB	Targeted review. Establishes the Licensing Board.	30/06/97		Review underway. NCP review subsumed into a comprehensive general review to be conducted in 1999.

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Electricity Act</i>	PAWA	Review is part of total review of PAWA. Regulates the generation and safe use of electricity, and the reselling of electricity (s 14(5)), Part IV (TPA) conflicts. Sale and resale is prohibited without license (s 27), affects competition, restricts entry. Prohibits certain uses of electricity (s 29), Part IV (TPA) concerns. Price fixing in relation to licensee (s 30), Part IV (TPA) concerns and possibly reduces contestability. Liability limitation (s 32), possible competitive neutrality. Act binds the Crown (s 38). Regulation making powers (s 39).	30/06/97	1998	Preliminary review complete. Potential new legislation may obviate need for further review.
<i>Energy Pipelines Act</i>	ME		30/06/97		Review underway.
<i>Energy Resource Consumption Levy Act</i>	NTT	Targeted review. Requirement for any bulk consumer of levy oil to register under the Act (s 7).	30/06/97	1998	Review complete. Registration requirement is administrative only and is not considered to restrict competition.
<i>Financial Institutions Duty Act</i>	NTT	Targeted review. Registration as a Financial Institution for FID (s 12), certification as a Short Term Dealer (s 14).	30/06/98	1998	Review complete. Registration requirement is administrative only and is not considered to restrict competition.
<i>Financial Management Act</i>	NTT	Review of requirement that a Government account to be held at a bank (s 27), defined as "any organisation providing financial services and includes banks, credit unions, building societies and similar organisations". The legal effect of the definition of a bank, as it applies to the Act needs to be clarified	30/06/97	1998	Anti-competitive effect of section 27 removed by <i>Financial Institutions (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1997</i> .

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Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Financial Management Act</i>	NTT	Requirements for determining suitable financial institutions and instruments for investing Government funds (s 29(2)). The requirement for deposits to be made with a financial institution with a suitable, published credit rating excludes financial institutions without a published credit rating.	30/06/97	1998	Review complete. The benefits arising from the accountability of Government investment outweigh the costs associated with the guidelines.
<i>Firearms Act</i>	PFES	Targeted review. Armourer's licence (s 20), Dealers licence (s 17), Shooter's licence for security firms (s 28/29), and Shooting gallery licence (s 31).	31/12/98		
<i>Fisheries Act and Regulations</i>	PIF	Targeted review. Reviewed in tandem with national initiatives. Permits and special permits (s 16 and 17), licensing and management of fisheries.	30/06/97	1998	Review complete. Recommendations are being progressed for Cabinet consideration.
<i>Food Act</i>	THS	Targeted review. Provides standards for the preparation and sale of food etc, registration of a food vending machine (s 13 (6) & 13 (7)).	30/06/97		National model for food legislation being developed. Completion expected Dec 1999. National review complete. Recommendations under consideration.
<i>Gaming Control Act and Regulations</i>	DIB	General review with particular attention to licensing elements. NT is participating in the information inquiry by Productivity Commission. Provides for the regulation and control of gaming.	30/06/97		Review underway. Copy of draft Productivity Commission report released July 1999.
<i>Gaming Machine Bill 1995</i>	DIB	Limited review. New legislation impact being assessed. Provides for the licensing of gaming machines in community venues - establishes limits and controls on numbers of machines and locations.			Review underway.

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Grain Marketing Act</i>	PIF	Complete review. Establishes board	31/12/96	1997	Act repealed February 1997 resulting in the dissolution of the Grain Marketing Board. Review underway.
<i>Hawkers Act</i>	LG	Targeted review. Provides for the licensing of hawkers (s 4).	30/06/98		
<i>Health Practitioners and Allied Professionals Registration Act</i>	THS	Full review. Registration as: Aboriginal Health Worker (s 24); Chiropractor (s 35); Occupational Therapist (s 38); Osteopath (s 39); Physiotherapist (s 40); and Psychologist (s 41).	31/12/97		To be repealed. New legislation to be prepared taking account of NCP issues.
<i>Housing Act</i>	LG	General review. Establishes the Housing Commission and provides for letting and sale of dwellings.	31/12/98		Review underway.
<i>Licensed Surveyors Act</i>	LPE	Targeted review. Licensing issues.	30/06/97	1998	Review complete and ready to be forwarded to Government for consideration.
<i>Liquor Act</i>	DIB	Targeted review. Provides for the regulation of the sale of alcohol.	30/06/98		
<i>Local Government Act, Regulations and By-Laws</i>	HLG	General review. Provides for the constitution of municipalities and community government areas, the election of self-governing authorities to control municipalities and community government areas and provides for a similarity of power and function between self-governing authorities.	31/07/97	1998	Review complete. Recommendations are being progressed for Cabinet consideration.

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Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
Marine Act Regulations (Pilotage, Hire-and-Drive, Examinations and Certificates)	TW	Targeted review. Licensing of certain commercial operations (part V), Certificate of survey (s 79(a)), Permit for the operation of hire-and-drive vessel (s 4), Certificate of competency (coxswain) (Sched 3), Certificate of competency (masterclass-all) (Regulation 9)	30/06/97		Draft report under consideration.
<i>Meat Industries Act</i>	PIF	New legislation impact assessment. Review to coincide with national food industry standards review implements national standards and reforms.	30/06/98	1998	Review complete. Recommendations are being progressed for Cabinet consideration.
<i>Medical Act</i>	THS	Review of Board. Establishes Medical Registration Board.	30/06/97		Act reviewed. Issues of regulation of advertising and ownership of medical companies to be resolved. Review underway.
<i>Medical Services Act</i>	THS	Targeted review. Provides rules for the conduct of medical services, entry conditions and pricing.	30/06/97		Review underway.
<i>Mental Health Act</i>	THS	General review. Provides for the care and treatment of the mentally ill.	31/12/96		Act to be repealed, and replaced by the <i>Mental Health and Related Services Act</i> . Act will apply equally to private and government sectors, and take account of need to meet national standards and accreditation requirements. Review underway.
<i>Mine Management Act</i>	ME	General review. Regulation of Occupational Health and Safety in Mining.	30/06/97		Review underway.
<i>Mining Act</i>	ME	Targeted review. Creates a regime for the valid grant of mining tenure in the NT, together with ongoing regulation.	30/06/97		Review underway. Completion delayed due to native title legislative considerations.

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Motor Accidents (Compensation) Act</i>	TIO	To be reviewed but no issues apparent. Establishes a no-fault compensation scheme, prescribes rates of benefit and abolishes certain common law rights.	30/06/97		
Motor Vehicle Dealers Regulations	DIB	Motor Vehicles Dealers Licence - Part X, Div 3, SubDiv A, s 132	30/06/97		Review underway.
<i>Motor Vehicles Act</i>	TW	Targeted review. Motor omnibus licence (s 10(2)), Pastoral vehicle permit (s 137B), Driving instructor's licence (25B), Commercial passenger vehicle licence.	30/06/97		Draft report under consideration.
<i>Nursing Act</i>	THS	Complete review of legislation to take account of - in particular - the operation of Mutual Recognition legislation. Establishes the Registration Board.	31/12/96		Act to be repealed. NCP review was included in full review of Act. Repeal recommended and a new Nursing Act has been drafted taking account of NCP issues, and Mutual Recognition and Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition implications.
<i>Oil Refinery Agreement Ratification Act</i>	ME	Targeted review. Provides a legislative basis for arrangements between Government and Mereneie. The Act contains possible restrictions on third parties.	30/06/98	1998	Review complete. Recommendations are being progressed for Cabinet consideration.
<i>Optometrists Act</i>	THS	Targeted review. Regulation of optical dispensers and prescription of drugs by optometrists to be considered. Establishes the Registration Board.	31/12/97		Review underway. Expected completion mid-1999.
<i>Ozone Protection Act and Regulations</i>	LPE	Targeted review. Licensing issues and environmental controls.	30/06/97	1998	Repealed, ozone protection provisions incorporated into Regulations under <i>Waste Management and Pollution Control Act</i> .
<i>Pawnbrokers Act</i>	DIB	Licence issues.	30/06/97	1997	Act repealed in 1998 by pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers provisions of the <i>Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act</i> .

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Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Pay-Roll Tax Act</i>	NTT	Targeted review. Licensing and registration issues.	30/06/98	1998	Review complete. Licensing and registration requirements are not considered to restrict competition.
<i>Pet Meat Act</i>	PIF	Targeted review. Licensing of slaughtering, processing and storage of pet meat, and the standard of premises.	30/06/97	1997	Repealed and replaced with <i>Meat Industries Act</i> , which commenced December 1997.
<i>Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act</i>	ME	Targeted review. Regulates the exploration and recovery of petroleum in NT territorial seas. Grants exclusive rights, technical and financial prescriptions.	30/06/99		National review underway. Issues paper released in November 1999.
<i>Petroleum Act and Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) Act</i>	ME	Targeted review. Regulates the exploration and recovery of petroleum in the NT. Grants exclusive rights, technical and financial prescriptions. Possible Part IV (TPA) concerns.	30/06/98		<i>Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) Act</i> repealed by the <i>Petroleum Act</i> .
<i>Pharmacy Act</i>	THS	Review deferred. National review proceeding in conjunction with review of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Establishes the Registration Board.	31/12/96		National review underway, discussion paper released.
<i>Places of Public Entertainment Act</i>	LG	Targeted review. Controls places of public entertainment.	30/06/98		Review underway.
<i>Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Act</i>	DIB	Targeted review. Licensing issues.	30/06/97		Review underway. NCP review subsumed into a comprehensive general review to be conducted in 1999.
<i>Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act</i>	THS	Targeted review. The national review is considering certificates of competency for pest controllers, and prescription of drugs by health professionals other than medical practitioners. The Act sets out controls and licensing for manufacture, wholesale, retail sales.	30/07/97		National review underway. Expected completion June 2000.

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
Port By-Laws	DPC	Targeted review. Port management and control provisions. Compulsory services and fees. Licensing issues.	30/06/98		
<i>Power and Water Authority Act</i>	PAWA	Targeted review. Establishes the Power and Water Authority, and prescribes functions and powers of the Authority.	30/06/97		Review underway.
<i>Prices Regulation Act</i>	DIB		30/06/97		Review underway.
<i>Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes Act</i>	THS	General review of provisions. Provides for the licensing of private hospitals and nursing homes.	30/06/98		
<i>Private Security Act</i>	DIB	New legislation impact assessment. Introduces accredited training requirement and a licensing regime for crowd controllers.	30/06/99		
<i>Prostitution Regulation Act</i>	AG		Stage 1 30/06/97 Stage 2 30/06/98 Stage 3 30/06/99		General review of the Act is underway, which will address NCP issues, and is expected to be forwarded to Cabinet in mid-1999.
Public Health (Barbers' Shops) Regulations	THS	Targeted review. Registration of barbers' shops (s5).	30/06/98		
Public Health (Shops, Eating-Houses, Boarding Houses, Hotels and Hostels) Regulations	THS	Targeted review. Registration of a boarding house (s 35, 36), registration of an eating house (s12, 13).	30/06/98		
<i>Racing and Betting Act</i>	DIB	Targeted review. Licensing and registration.	30/06/98		Review underway.
Racing and Betting Regulations	DIB	Targeted review. Regulates sports betting and bookmakers.	30/06/98		Review underway.
<i>Radiation (Safety Control) Act</i>	THS	Targeted review. Registration of irradiating apparatus (s 29)	30/06/98		

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Radiographers Act</i>	THS	Targeted review. Establishes the Registration Board. Reassessment of need for registration board and mechanism for issue of permits to other health professionals to undertake radiographic procedures to be considered.	30/06/97		
<i>Retirement Villages Act</i>	DIB	New legislation impact assessment. Regulates operation of retirement villages	31/07/99		
<i>Stock (Artificial Breeding) Act and Regulations</i>	PIF	Targeted review. Licensing and regulation of insemination.	30/06/97	1998	Repealed by the <i>Stock (Artificial Breeding) Repeal Act</i> .
<i>Taxation (Administration) Act</i>	NTT	Targeted review. Registration as an Accommodation House (s 80c), registration as a lender (div 13, s 72), register of a financial institution for electronic debit transaction duty (s 29M), registration of insurers (div 6, s 40), register of life insurers (div 7, s 46)	30/06/98	1998	Review complete. Licensing and registration requirements are not considered to restrict competition
<i>Territory Insurance Office (TIO) Act</i>	TIO	Targeted review being conducted in conjunction with recommendations of Wallis enquiry. Establishes the TIO to carry out certain insurance and related business and provide financial, business and other services. Confers a monopoly on motor vehicle accident insurance, acting as the insurer of Territory assets and liabilities. Ministerial discretion on the extent of financial activity (s 30) the government guarantees.	30/06/97		

Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act</i>	PW	Targeted review. Establishes parks and reserves, and protects and conserves wildlife.	30/06/97	1998	Review complete. No restrictions to competition identified.
<i>Totalisator Administration and Betting Act</i>	DIB	General review. Grants sole rights to this form of betting.	30/06/98		Review underway.
<i>Trade Development Zone Act</i>	TDZ	Targeted review. Licence to operate in the Trade Development Zone (s 21, 28).	30/06/97		Review to be recommenced due to changes in the focus of the Trade Development Zone.
<i>Uranium Mining (Environmental Control) Act</i>	ME	Targeted review. Controls uranium mining in the Alligator Rivers Region. Imposes restrictions, conditions and requirements that could discourage innovation, add to costs.	30/06/98		Review underway.
<i>Veterinarian Act</i>	PIF	Targeted review. Establishes registration board.	30/06/98		Review underway. An amendment Bill has been prepared but will be reassessed due to recent departmental restructuring.
<i>Water Act and Regulations</i>	LPE	Targeted review. Provides for the investigation, use, control, protection, management and administration of water resources.	30/06/97		Rescheduled to link with COAG water reform agenda.
<i>Water Supply and Sewerage Act</i>	PAWA	Targeted review. Relates to the provision of sewerage and water services.	30/06/97		Rescheduled to link with COAG water reform agenda.
<i>Work Health (Occupational Health and Safety) Act and Regulations</i>	DIB	See Acts listed under the WHA Workers Compensation claims management (TIO subject to provisions in this Act, although the Act is owned and administered by the WHA).	30/06/97		Review complete. Recommendations are being progressed for Cabinet consideration.

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Name of legislation	Agency	Description/Comment on review	Review scheduled	Review complete	Review/Reform progress
<i>Work Health (Occupational Health and Safety) Act and Regulations</i>	DIB	Targeted review. Establishes the WHA and sets requirements for occupational health and safety. Registration of the design of designated plant and equipment, licensing of operators.	30/06/98	1998	Review complete. Recommendations are being progressed for Cabinet consideration. Existing plant registration and operator licensing provisions were considered nationally and are to be retained.