

Marketing of Primary Products Amendment (Wine Grapes Marketing Board) Bill 1997

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The objects of this Bill are:

- (a) to provide for the vesting in the Wine Grapes Marketing Board (*the Board*) until the end of 31 July 2000 of all wine grapes grown in the Board's area for sale other than wine grapes that are the subject of long-term supply contracts, and
- (b) to impose various constraints on the powers of the Board as a marketing board under the *Marketing of Primary Products Act 1983* (*the Principal Act*) including constraints relating to the processing of wine grapes by the Board, the involvement of the Board in the sale of wine grapes, the fixing of prices for the sale of wine grapes and the making of payments in connection with the sale of grapes, and

- (c) to make it clear that an exculpation from liability provision in respect of anything done bona fide under and for the purposes of the Principal Act extends to authorities (which include, by definition, marketing boards) within the meaning of the Principal Act, and
- (d) to make it clear that functions of marketing boards in general and the Board in particular that are exercised in accordance with the Principal Act are authorised for the purposes of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* of the Commonwealth and the *Competition Code of New South Wales*, and
- (e) to enact other provisions of a consequential, ancillary, savings or transitional nature.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

Clause 3 is a formal provision giving effect to the amendments to the Principal Act set out in Schedule 1.

Schedule 1 Amendments

Special provisions relating to the Wine Grapes Marketing Board

Schedule 1 [1] inserts proposed Division 5 in Part 3 of the Principal Act and proposed section 67A, a formal provision that gives effect to a new Schedule, proposed Schedule 5, to the Principal Act. Schedule 1 [9] inserts Schedule 5. The new Division and Schedule deal with special provisions relating to the Board.

Proposed Schedule 5 is divided into 6 Parts.

Part 1 (clauses 1–3) deals with preliminary matters. It sets out the objects of the proposed Schedule (as referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) above), defines certain terms used in the proposed Schedule and states how the provisions of the Principal Act and the proposed Schedule operate in relation to each other.

Part 2 (clauses 4–9) deals with matters having to do with the functions of the Board and includes provisions:

- prohibiting the Board from processing or arranging for the processing on its behalf of wine grapes, and
- prohibiting the Board from fixing prices (other than setting a minimum price) for wine grapes or being involved in the sale of wine grapes other than as provided for by the proposed Schedule, and
- appointing wine grape producers (other than those who decline to act)
 as authorised agents of the Board for the purpose of selling to wine
 makers wine grapes that they grow.

Part 3 (clauses 10–12) deals with the vesting of wine grapes in the Board. The Part makes provision for all wine grapes grown in the Board's area for sale to vest in the Board until the end of 31 July 2000 other than those wine grapes that are the subject of long-term supply contracts between producers and wine makers. (These contracts are defined in Part 1 of the proposed Schedule as contracts of a duration of 3 years or more.) In addition, the Part makes provision as to the treatment of wine grapes that were vested in the Board by a proclamation made under the Principal Act in August 1997.

Provision is made for the revesting in producers of wine grapes that are at the commencement of clause 12 in the proposed Schedule or subsequently become the subject of a long-term supply contract.

Part 4 (clauses 13–23) deals with the sale and delivery of wine grapes. Wine grape producers are authorised to act as authorised agents of the Board under the Principal Act for the sale of vested wine grapes to wine makers. Producers do not need the Board's approval to sell unless the Board has set a minimum price for the wine grapes and the proposed price is lower than the minimum price. However, the Board cannot refuse to approve a sale unless it can refer the producer to a wine maker who is prepared to pay a higher price for the wine grapes.

Provision is made for the avoidance of certain contracts entered into contrary to the requirements of the proposed Schedule.

A producer who sells vested wine grapes to a wine maker in accordance with this procedure is authorised to deliver the wine grapes to the destination agreed to by the producer and the wine maker.

If a producer delivers vested wine grapes without concluding a sale in accordance with the Part, the producer's authorisation to sell the wine grapes is revoked and the wine maker to whom the wine grapes are delivered is

required to inform the Board that they have been delivered before sale. A wine maker who fails to do this is guilty of an offence unless able to demonstrate that the wine maker did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have ascertained, that the wine grapes were delivered before sale.

Offences are created in respect of producers who unlawfully supply, sell or deliver vested wine grapes and persons who buy or receive vested wine grapes that are unlawfully supplied, sold or delivered by a producer.

Provision is made for the disposal of vested wine grapes that are delivered before sale, either by sale by the Board or by rejection by the Board and revesting in the producer.

If a producer declines to act as an authorised agent for the sale of vested wine grapes, the Board may sell the wine grapes or, if unable to sell them, revest them in the producer.

A producer is authorised by the Part to sell vested wine grapes for a purpose other than for making wine. If such a sale is effected, the wine grapes are taken never to have vested in the Board but vest in the person to whom they are sold.

Among other matters, the Part makes provision for the renegotiation of certain concluded contracts, including long-term contracts, if the price negotiated for the sale of the wine grapes to which they relate was based on a price set by the Board. If such negotiations are not undertaken or are unsuccessful, provision is made for the termination of the contracts concerned.

Part 5 (clauses 24–26) deals with payments for wine grapes, being payments by purchasers for wine grapes purchased and payments by the Board to producers. Among other things, the Part requires that all payments for wine grapes grown in the Board's area for sale (including grapes sold under long-term supply contracts) are to be made to the Board or as it directs.

Payments by the Board to producers must be for the price negotiated for the sale of the wine grapes concerned less any charges or fees to which the Board is entitled under the Principal Act. The payments must be made within a reasonable time after the Board has received payment for the wine grapes from purchasers and must be made without discrimination as to time or manner of payment between producers. The Board must provide producers with a statement identifying the nature and amount of all deductions made by the Board from payments received by the Board for the wine grapes.

Part 6 (clause 27) specifically authorises the exercise of functions by the Board under the proposed Schedule for the purposes of section 51 of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* of the Commonwealth and the *Competition Code of New South Wales*.

The proposed Schedule also includes provisions of a consequential or ancillary nature.

Exculpation from liability

Schedule 1 [2] makes an amendment for the purpose of ensuring that an exculpation from liability provision in the Principal Act extends to authorities constituted under the Principal Act (and hence, by definition, to marketing boards) as referred to in paragraph (c) of the Overview that sets out the objects of this Bill.

Authorisations for the purposes of Trade Practices Act 1974 (Cth) and Competition Code

Schedule 1 [3]–[6] make amendments for the purpose of making it clear that things done by marketing boards in accordance with the Principal Act are authorised for the purposes of section 51 of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cth) and of the *Competition Code*. Section 51 of that Act and of that Code empower the making of such authorisations by State legislation, with the result that the authorised matters will be disregarded in deciding whether a person has contravened Part IV of that Act and that Code. Part IV deals with restrictive trade practices.

Savings and transitional provisions

Schedule 1 [7] and [8] make amendments to Schedule 4 (Savings, transitional and other provisions) to the Principal Act.

Schedule 1 [7] enables the making of regulations of a savings or transitional nature as a consequence of the enactment of the proposed Act. Schedule 1 [8] enacts a transitional provision.



Marketing of Primary Products Amendment (Wine Grapes Marketing Board) Bill 1997

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Marketing of Primary Products Amendment (Wine Grapes Marketing Board) Bill 1997

No , 1997

A Bill for

An Act to amend the *Marketing of Primary Products Act 1983* to make further provision with respect to the functions of the Wine Grapes Marketing Board constituted under that Act; and for other purposes.

The Legislature of New South Wales enacts:

1 Name of Act

This Act is the Marketing of Primary Products Amendment (Wine Grapes Marketing Board) Act 1997.

2 Commencement

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This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

3 Amendment of Marketing of Primary Products Act 1983 No 176

The Marketing of Primary Products Act 1983 is amended as set out in Schedule 1.

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Schedule 1

Schedule 1 Amendmen	Sch	edul	le 1	Amen	dmen	ts
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(Section 3)

[1] Part 3, Division 5

Insert after Division 4 of Part 3:

Division 5 Special provisions relating to Wine Grapes Marketing Board

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67A Special provisions relating to Wine Grapes Marketing Board

Schedule 5 has effect.

[2] Section 160 Liability

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Insert "an authority," after "the Director," in section 160 (a).

[3] Section 164 Authorisations for section 51 of Trade Practices Act 1974 (Cth) and Competition Code

Insert in alphabetical order in section 164 (1):

Competition Code means the Competition Code of New 15 South Wales.

[4] Section 164 (2)

Omit "acts and " wherever occurring.

[5] Section 164 (2), (3) and (6)

Insert "and the Competition Code" after "the Commonwealth Act" 20 wherever occurring.

[6] Section 164 (4)

Insert "or the Competition Code" after "the Commonwealth Act".

[7]	Schedule 4	Savings,	transitional	and	other	provisions
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Insert at the end of clause 1A (1):

Marketing of Primary Products Amendment (Wine Grapes Marketing Board) Act 1997

[8] Schedule 4, Part 4

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Insert after Part 3:

Part 4 Provisions consequent on enactment of Marketing of Primary Products Amendment (Wine Grapes Marketing Board) Act 1997

14 Prices for sale of vested wine grapes

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If, before the commencement of this clause, the Wine Grapes Marketing Board has set a price for which vested wine grapes that comprise the 1998 crop may be sold, the last price so set immediately before the commencement of this clause is taken to have been set under and for the purposes of clause 7 of Schedule 5 (as inserted by the Marketing of Primary Products Amendment (Wine Grapes Marketing Board) Act 1997).

[9] Schedule 5

Insert after Schedule 4:

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Schedule 5 Special provisions relating to Wine Grapes Marketing Board

(Section 67A)

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Purpose of Schedule

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The purpose of this Schedule is:

(a) to provide for the vesting in the Wine Grapes
Marketing Board until the end of 31 July 2000 of
all wine grapes grown in the Board's area for sale
other than wine grapes that are the subject of
long-term supply contracts, and

(b) to impose various constraints on the exercise of functions by the Board as a marketing board under Part 3 of this Act.

2 Definitions

(1) In this Schedule:

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Board means the Wine Grapes Marketing Board constituted as a board under this Act.

Board's area means the area constituted by the City of Griffith and the local government areas of Carrathool, Leeton and Murrumbidgee.

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long-term supply contract means a contract for the supply of wine grapes by a producer to a wine maker for a period (including any period for which the contract may be renewed by the exercise of an option) of 3 years or more.

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minimum price means the minimum price for vested wine grapes set under clause 7.

vested wine grapes means wine grapes that are vested in the Board by the operation of clause 10.

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- (2) For the purposes of this Schedule, a reference to a producer or wine maker includes a reference to any person, other than the Board, who is acting on behalf of the producer or wine maker.
- (3) Notes included in this Schedule are explanatory notes and do not form part of this Act.

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3 Application

- (1) This Act (other than this Schedule) and, in particular, Part 3 of this Act, have effect subject to this Schedule.
- (2) The provisions of this Act (other than this Schedule) that apply with respect to the Board apply with such modifications as are necessary for the purposes of this Schedule and with such modifications (if any) as may be prescribed by the regulations.

Part 2 General functions of Board

4 No voluntary deliveries of commodity to Board

The Board may not arrange with a producer for the delivery to it of any commodity or other primary product in the manner described in section 45 (Voluntary deliveries of the commodity) and, accordingly, that section has no application to the Board.

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5 Board prohibited from processing wine grapes

- (1) This clause applies to all wine grapes, whether the grapes are vested wine grapes or not.
- (2) The Board must not process wine grapes to which this clause applies and must not arrange for the processing of such grapes by any person on its behalf.
- (3) This section has effect despite sections 46 (Board may deal in the commodity), 48 (Manufacturing and processing of the commodity) and 49 (Board may deal in other products etc).

6 Board generally prohibited from fixing or negotiating price for wine grapes

Despite any other provision of this Act (including section 47 (b)), the Board must not, except as expressly authorised by this Schedule, fix or negotiate a price for the sale of wine grapes.

7 Board may set minimum price for sale of vested wine grapes

- (1) For the purposes of Part 4 of this Schedule, the Board may set the minimum price for which vested wine grapes, or classes or grades of vested wine grapes, may be sold.
- (2) The Board must review regularly any minimum price set under this clause to ensure that, so far as possible, all vested wine grapes are sold.

(3) The Board must disseminate details of any minimum price set under this clause, including by publication in at least one newspaper circulating in the Board's area as soon as practicable after the price has been set.

8 Producers of vested wine grapes appointed as authorised agents of Board

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(1) Each producer of vested wine grapes is appointed as an authorised agent to act as the Board's agent for the purpose of selling to wine makers, in accordance with this Schedule, vested wine grapes that the producer has grown.

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(2) Any contract entered into by a producer as an authorised agent pursuant to subclause (1) is taken to include a term under which the agent, and not the Board, is the person who may take proceedings or be proceeded against in relation to any matter arising under the contract.

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(3) Nothing in this clause limits the power of the Board to appoint authorised agents under section 50 (Appointment of authorised agents) for the purpose of exercising other functions of the Board under this Act.

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9 Producer may decline to act as authorised agent

(1) A producer of vested wine grapes who does not wish to act as an authorised agent of the Board for the purpose of selling wine grapes grown in a particular season may decline to act as an authorised agent by giving the Board written notice of that fact.

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- (2) The notice must be given to the Board before the wine grapes are harvested.
- (3) A producer who gives such a notice to the Board is not entitled to sell the wine grapes to be harvested.

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Note. Clause 20 describes the other consequences of the giving of a notice under this clause that follow in relation to the sale or revesting of wine grapes to which the notice relates.

Part 3 Vesting of wine grapes in Board

10 Vesting of certain wine grapes in Board until 31 July 2000

- (1) On and from the commencement of this clause until the end of 31 July 2000, all wine grapes grown in the Board's area for sale, other than those referred to in subclause (2), are divested from the producers of the wine grapes and become absolutely vested in and are the property of the Board subject to the provisions of this Schedule and despite any other provisions of this Act.
- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to wine grapes grown in the Board's area that are the subject of a long-term supply contract.
- (3) Wine grapes grown in the Board's area for sale that cease to be the subject of a long-term supply contract vest in the Board by the operation of this clause when the contract ceases to have effect.
- (4) Wine grapes vested in the Board by the operation of this clause are taken to have been so vested by a proclamation under section 56 (Vesting of commodity in board) and, subject to this Schedule, that section and the other provisions of this Act apply (with any necessary modifications) with respect to this clause in the same way that they apply with respect to a proclamation made under that section.
- (5) Nothing in this clause prevents the Board from exercising a power of exemption under section 57 (Exemption by board) in relation to the operation of subclause (1).
- (6) This clause ceases to have effect at the end of 31 July 30 2000.

11 Vesting of wine grapes vested by proclamation

(1) In this clause, *the proclamation* means the proclamation under section 56 dated 6 August 1997 vesting wine grapes in the Board that was published in Gazette No 91 on 15 August 1997 at page 6338.

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	(2)	All wine grapes vested in the Board pursuant to the proclamation (other than wine grapes that are the subject of a long-term supply contract entered into before the commencement of this clause) are taken to be vested in the Board by the operation of clause 10 and to be subject to the provisions of this Schedule.	5
	(3)	Wine grapes that were, immediately before the commencement of this Schedule, the subject of a long-term supply contract are taken not to have been vested in the Board by the proclamation, or at all.	10
12	Reves	sting of wine grapes sold on long-term supply acts	
	(1)	This clause applies to wine grapes that:	
		(a) are vested in the Board at the commencement of this clause and are, at that commencement, the subject of a long-term supply contract, or	15
		(b) vest in the Board by the operation of clause 10 and subsequently become the subject of a long-term supply contract.	
	(2)	Wine grapes to which subclause (1) (a) applies revest in the producer of the wine grapes on the commencement of this clause.	20
	(3)	Wine grapes to which subclause (1) (b) applies revest in the producer of the wine grapes when the long-term supply contract in respect of the wine grapes commences.	25

Part 4 Sale and delivery of wine grapes

13 Sale of vested wine grapes by producers as authorised agents for Board

(1) A producer of wine grapes who is an authorised agent of the Board is authorised to sell vested wine grapes that the producer grows to one or more wine makers.

- (2) A producer is required to obtain the Board's approval to conclude such a sale only if:
 - (a) the Board has set a minimum price for the wine grapes, and
 - (b) the price at which the producer proposes to sell the wine grapes is lower than that minimum price.

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14 Approval of sale at price lower than minimum price

If an application is made to the Board for the approval of a sale at a price that is lower than the minimum price, the Board must approve the sale unless the Board is able, within a reasonable time, to refer the producer to a wine maker who is prepared to buy the wine grapes for a higher price.

15 Avoidance of certain contracts

- (1) A contract made after the commencement of this clause, or any provision in any such contract, in so far as the contract or provision relates to the sale of vested wine grapes in a manner that does not comply with the requirements of this Schedule, is and is taken to have been void and of no effect from the date on which the contract was made or purported to be made.
- (2) Any provision in a contract of a kind referred to in subclause (1) is taken to be severable.
- (3) Any transaction or contract with respect to vested wine grapes that is the subject of any contract or provision of a contract declared by this clause to be void is also void and of no effect, and any money paid pursuant to any such contract or provision or to any such transaction is repayable.
- (4) This clause has effect in place of the provisions of section 58 (Avoidance of contracts for sale of commodity).

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16 Delivery following sale

- (1) A producer who sells vested wine grapes in accordance with this Schedule is to deliver the wine grapes to the person to whom the producer and wine maker have agreed the wine grapes should be delivered.
- (2) Subclause (1) has effect despite section 60 (Delivery of commodity).

17 Delivery without sale

- (1) If a producer delivers vested wine grapes to a wine maker without first selling the wine grapes in accordance with this Schedule:
 - (a) the authorisation of the producer to act as an authorised agent of the Board for the sale of the wine grapes is revoked, and
 - (b) the wine maker to whom the wine grapes are delivered must inform the Board that the wine grapes have been delivered before being sold in accordance with this Schedule.
- (2) A wine maker who contravenes subclause (1) (b) is guilty of an offence against this Act.
- (3) In proceedings for an offence under subclause (2), it is a defence if it is established that the defendant did not know, and could not reasonably have been expected to have ascertained, that the vested wine grapes were delivered before being sold in accordance with this 25 Schedule.

18 Offences relating to delivery

- (1) A producer who supplies, sells or delivers vested wine grapes other than:
 - (a) as authorised by this Schedule, or
 - (b) if the Board is negotiating the sale of the wine grapes—contrary to the written direction of the Board,

is guilty of an offence against this Act.

- (2) A person who buys or receives any vested wine grapes that are supplied, sold or delivered in contravention of subclause (1) is guilty of an offence against this Act.
- (3) In proceedings for an offence under subclause (2), it is a defence if it is established that the defendant did not know, and could not reasonably have been expected to have ascertained, that the vested wine grapes were supplied, sold or delivered in contravention of subclause (1).

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19 Disposal of wine grapes delivered before sale

- (1) The Board may negotiate a price for the sale of vested wine grapes that have been delivered to a wine maker in the circumstances described in clause 17 with the wine maker if the wine maker wishes to buy the wine grapes.
- (2) If the Board is unable to sell the wine grapes to the wine maker to whom they have been delivered, the Board may:
 - (a) sell the wine grapes to another person, or
 - (b) by written notice served on the producer, revest the wine grapes in the producer.
- (3) The Board may sell vested wine grapes to which subclause (2) (a) applies for whatever price the Board can negotiate, even if this price is lower than the minimum price (if any) set by the Board for the wine grapes.

20 Consequences of producer declining to act as authorised agent

(1) If the Board receives written notice under clause 9 that a producer does not wish to be an authorised agent of the Board for the purpose of selling vested wine grapes, the Board is entitled to sell the wine grapes for whatever price the Board can negotiate, even if this price is lower than the minimum price (if any) set by the Board for the wine grapes.

(2)	The producer of wine grapes that are sold pursuant to
	subclause (1) must deliver the wine grapes in accordance
	with the Board's direction.

- (3) If the Board is unable to sell vested wine grapes after a producer has declined to act as authorised agent for their sale, the Board must serve written notice to this effect on the producer.
- (4) On the service of a notice under subclause (3), the vested wine grapes revest in the person who would have been the owner of the wine grapes if this Schedule had not applied to the wine grapes.

21 Sale of wine grapes for purpose other than wine making

- (1) A producer may sell vested wine grapes for a purpose other than for processing into wine.
- (2) If vested wine grapes are sold for a purpose other than for processing into wine, on completion of the sale, the wine grapes:
 - (a) are taken never to have vested in the Board, and
 - (b) vest in the person to whom they have been sold.
- (3) Part 5 of this Schedule does not apply to wine grapes 20 sold in accordance with this clause.

22 Acceptance of wine grapes

The Board must not exercise functions under section 61 (Acceptance of commodity) in respect of vested wine grapes.

23 Renegotiation of earlier contracts

(1) This clause applies to contracts, including long-term supply contracts, entered into before the commencement of this clause for the sale of wine grapes harvested after that commencement at a price negotiated by reference to any price set by the Board under this Act before that commencement for the sale of wine grapes.

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(2)	The parties to a contract to which this clause applies may, in accordance with this Schedule, renegotiate the price for which the wine grapes that are the subject of the contract are to be sold.	
(3)	The producer of the wine grapes that are the subject of any contract to which the Board is a party as vendor is authorised to act as an authorised agent of the Board for the purpose of the renegotiation referred to in subclause (2).	5
(4)	If the parties are or either of them is unable or unwilling to renegotiate a new price for the wine grapes, the parties must notify the Board in writing of that fact.	10
(5)	The Board may, on receiving a notification under subclause (4), terminate the contract by written notice to the producer and purchaser.	15
(6)	If a contract is terminated under subclause (5), neither party to the contract has any liability to the other arising out of the termination.	
(7)	If a long-term supply contract is terminated under subclause (5) and the wine grapes to which it relates have not been delivered to the purchaser:	20
	(a) the wine grapes are taken to have vested in the Board by the operation of clause 10, and	
	(b) the provisions of this Schedule apply with respect to the wine grapes, and	25
	(c) the producer of the wine grapes, as an authorised agent of the Board, is authorised to sell the wine grapes to another purchaser.	
Part 5	Payment for wine grapes	
24 Board grape	prohibited from equalising price of vested wine	30

Section 64 (Payments) has no application in respect of payments made by the Board to producers of vested wine grapes and, in particular, the Board is prohibited from making payments to producers at a uniform rate in the

manner prescribed by that section.

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25 Payment for wine grapes by purchasers

- (1) Despite any other provision of this Act or of any contract, the purchase price for all wine grapes grown in the Board's area for sale (including wine grapes that are the subject of long-term supply contracts, whether entered into before or after the commencement of this clause) is to be paid to the Board or as directed by the Board, on such terms and conditions as the Board may determine and notify in writing to the purchaser.
- (2) A notice under subclause (1) directing that payment need not be made to the Board may be made subject to a condition that the person making the payment deduct from the price being paid for the wine grapes and pay to the Board any charges or fees to which the Board is entitled pursuant to section 106 (Charges and fees).

26 Payments by Board to producers

- (1) Despite any other provisions of this Act, the Board must make payments to producers of wine grapes in accordance with the price negotiated for the sale of the wine grapes less any charges or fees to which the Board is entitled pursuant to section 106.
- (2) The payments must be made:
 - (a) within a reasonable time after payments for the wine grapes have been received by the Board from purchasers, and
 - (b) without discrimination as to time or manner of payment between producers.
- (3) The Board must, when making payments to producers, provide the producers with a statement that identifies clearly the nature and amount of all deductions made by the Board from payments received by the Board for the producers' wine grapes.
- (4) Section 65 (Schemes for payments) does not apply in relation to payments payable by the Board to producers under this Schedule.

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Amendments

Part 6 Miscellaneous

27 Specific authorisation for section 51 of Trade Practices Act 1974 (Cth) and Competition Code

Without affecting the generality of section 164 (Authorisations for section 51 of Trade Practices Act 1974 (Cth) and Competition Code), the exercise of any function by the Board in accordance with this Schedule is specifically authorised for the purposes of section 51 of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* of the Commonwealth and the *Competition Code of New South Wales*.

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