

Irrigation Corporations Amendment Bill 1998

Explanatory note

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

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the *Irrigation Corporations Act 1994* to provide for the conversion of Coleambally Irrigation Corporation and Murrumbidgee Irrigation Corporation, currently statutory State owned corporations and class 1 irrigation corporations, to company State owned corporations and then to class 2 irrigation corporations.

Class 1 irrigation corporations may be either statutory State owned corporations or company State owned corporations. Those that are company State owned corporations may be converted by proclamation under the *Irrigation Corporations Act 1994* to class 2 irrigation corporations which are companies whose shares are held by private irrigators.

The Bill also contains consequential amendments to the *State Owned Corporations Act 1989*.

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 *Irrigation Corporations Act 1994* set out in Schedule 1.

Clause 4 is a formal provision giving effect to the amendments to the *State Owned Corporations Act 1989*.

Clause 5 enables a proclamation to be made under section 27 of the *Irrigation Corporations Act 1994* converting Coleambally Irrigation Limited and Murrumbidgee Irrigation Limited into class 2 irrigation corporations (that is, companies that are not State owned corporations and the shares of which are held by existing irrigators) by proclamation.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Irrigation Corporations Act 1994

Schedule 1 [5] and [14] dissolve Coleambally Irrigation Corporation and Murrumbidgee Irrigation Corporation, currently statutory State owned corporations and class 1 irrigation corporations, and provides for their assets and liabilities to be transferred to company State owned corporations with the names of Coleambally Irrigation Limited and Murrumbidgee Irrigation Limited.

Schedule 1 [1]–[4], [6]–[8] and [11]–[13] contain consequential amendments.

Schedule 1 [9] and [10] specify arrangements that the Minister must be satisfied have been made before approving an application by Coleambally Irrigation Limited or Murrumbidgee Irrigation Limited to become a class 2 irrigation corporation.

Schedule 2 Amendment of State Owned Corporations Act 1989

Schedule 2 amends the *State Owned Corporations Act 1989* to remove Coleambally Irrigation Corporation and Murrumbidgee Irrigation Corporation from the list of statutory State owned corporations.