

PAPUA.



No. 17 of 1925.

AN ORDINANCE

To Amend the "*Mineral Oil and Coal Ordinances, 1923.*"

[RESERVED 31ST AUGUST, 1925.

ASSENTED TO 21ST DECEMBER, 1925.]^(a)

BE it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Territory of Papua with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows:—

1. (1) This Ordinance may be cited as the *Mineral Oil and Coal Ordinance, 1925.* Short title and citation.

(2) The *Mineral Oil and Coal Ordinances, 1923,* are in this Ordinance referred to as the Principal Ordinance.

(3) The Principal Ordinance as amended by this Ordinance may be cited as the *Mineral Oil and Coal Ordinance, 1923-1925.*

(a) Assent notified in *Gazette* No. 16 of 31st December, 1925.

Effect of licence to search for mineral oil and coal.

2. Section Five of the Principal Ordinance is amended—

- (a) by omitting from Paragraph (c) of Subsection (1) the words “a preferential” (first occurring) and inserting in their stead the words “an exclusive”;
- (b) by omitting from Paragraph (c) of Subsection (1) the words “six hundred and forty acres” and inserting in their stead the words “four square miles”;
- (c) by omitting from Paragraph (c) of Subsection (1) the word “preferential” (second occurring);
- (d) by omitting from Paragraph (d) of Subsection (1) the words “a preferential” and inserting in their stead the words “an exclusive”;
- (e) by omitting from Paragraph (d) of Subsection (1) the word “preferential” (second occurring); and
- (f) by omitting from Subsection (2) thereof, the word “preferential”.

Variation of conditions.

3. Section Thirteen of the Principal Ordinance is amended by omitting the word “or” and inserting in its stead the words “but not so as to add to the obligations of the licensee under the licence or may”.

Reports by licensees.

4. Section Eighteen of the Principal Ordinance is amended—

- (a) by omitting from Subsection (2) thereof the words “any indication that renders the presence of mineral oil or coal probable” and inserting in their stead the words “any indication of the presence of mineral oil or coal”; and
- (b) by omitting from Subsection (3) thereof the word “probable”.

Mineral oil leases and coal leases.

5. Section Nineteen of the Principal Ordinance is amended—

- (a) by omitting from Subsection (5) the word “preferential”;
- (b) by omitting from Subsection (5) thereof the words “six hundred and forty acres” (first occurring) and inserting in their stead the words “four square miles”;

- (c) by omitting Subsection (6) thereof and inserting the following subsections in its stead :—

“(6) The area comprised in a mineral oil lease shall as nearly as circumstances permit be that of a square and shall not exceed one hundred and sixty acres.

(6A) A mineral oil reward lease granted in pursuance of Section Five of this Ordinance may be of an area not exceeding four square miles and may be taken up in four separate contiguous blocks each containing six hundred and forty acres and having sides running North and South and East and West and

(a) either together forming a rectangle the length of which is not more than eight times greater than the breadth ;
or

(b) being ‘stepped’ in the manner proposed by the licensee and approved by the Lieutenant-Governor.” ;

- (d) by omitting from Subsection (10) the words “at the discretion of the Lieutenant-Governor” and inserting in their stead the words “provided that the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the lessee has faithfully observed the conditions of the lease”; and

- (e) by adding at the end thereof the following Sub-section :—

“(11) If the Lieutenant-Governor is not satisfied that the lessee has faithfully observed the conditions of the lease or if for any other reason he considers that the lease should not be renewed he may refuse to renew the lease.”

6. Section Twenty-nine of the Principal Ordinance is amended— Reservations and covenants in leases.

- (a) by omitting Paragraph (f) thereof ;
(b) by omitting from Paragraph (g) all the words after the words “Lieutenant-Governor” and inserting in their stead the words “so much of the

crude oil produced from the leased land as the Lieutenant-Governor from time to time directs”;

Reservation of
land from
licences and
leases.

7. Section Thirty-four of the Principal Ordinance is amended by omitting therefrom the word “preferential” (wherever occurring).

Passed in Council this thirty-first day of August, in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five.

Assented to by His Excellency the Governor-General, with the advice of the Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Australia, on the twenty-first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five.