

Australian Capital Territory

# Gas Safety Act 2000

A2000-67

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Authorised by the ACT Parliamentary Counsel

#### About this republication

#### The republished law

This is a republication of the *Gas Safety Act 2000* (including any amendment made under the *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 (Editorial changes)) as in force on 30 March 2015. It also includes any commencement, amendment, repeal or expiry affecting this republished law to 30 March 2015.

The legislation history and amendment history of the republished law are set out in endnotes 3 and 4.

#### Kinds of republications

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- authorised republications to which the *Legislation Act 2001* applies
- unauthorised republications.

The status of this republication appears on the bottom of each page.

#### **Editorial changes**

The *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 authorises the Parliamentary Counsel to make editorial amendments and other changes of a formal nature when preparing a law for republication. Editorial changes do not change the effect of the law, but have effect as if they had been made by an Act commencing on the republication date (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 115 and s 117). The changes are made if the Parliamentary Counsel considers they are desirable to bring the law into line, or more closely into line, with current legislative drafting practice.

This republication includes amendments made under part 11.3 (see endnote 1).

#### Uncommenced provisions and amendments

If a provision of the republished law has not commenced, the symbol [U] appears immediately before the provision heading. Any uncommenced amendments that affect this republished law are accessible on the ACT legislation register (www.legislation.act.gov.au). For more information, see the home page for this law on the register.

#### Modifications

If a provision of the republished law is affected by a current modification, the symbol  $\mathbf{M}$  appears immediately before the provision heading. The text of the modifying provision appears in the endnotes. For the legal status of modifications, see the *Legislation Act 2001*, section 95.

#### **Penalties**

At the republication date, the value of a penalty unit for an offence against this law is \$150 for an individual and \$750 for a corporation (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 133).



# Gas Safety Act 2000

## Contents

		Page
Part 1	Preliminary	
<b>Division</b> 1	.1 Introduction	
1	Name of Act	2
3	Dictionary	2
4	Notes	2
5	Offences against Act—application of Criminal Code etc	2
<b>Division</b> 1	.2 Objects and important concepts	
6	Objects of Act	3
6A	Meaning of gas appliance	4
6B	Meaning of type A gas appliance work	4
6C	Meaning of type B gas appliance work	4
6D	Meaning of gas appliance worker	4
6E	Meaning of gasfitter	5
6F	Meaning of gasfitting work	5

R14	Gas Safety Act 2000	contents 1
30/03/15	Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15	

Co	nte	ents
00	inc	1110

6G	Meaning of gas safety legislation	Page 5
6H	Meaning of <i>relevant standard</i>	6
011	Meaning of Televant Standard	0
Part 2	Work safety and standards	
Division 2	2.1 Gasfitting work	
8	Offence—gasfitting work to comply with relevant standard	7
8A	Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gasfitting work	7
9	Offence—certificate of compliance	8
11	False certificates of compliance	9
12	Offence—unsafe consumer piping system	9
Division 2	2.2 Gas appliance work	
14	Offence—standard of gas appliance work	10
14A	Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gas appliance work	10
Part 3	Responsibilities of owners and users	
15	Consumer piping system—owner's responsibility	12
16	Gas appliances—owner's responsibility	12
17	Gas appliances—user's responsibility	13
Part 4	Regulation of gas appliances	
Division 4	I.1 General	
18	Definitions for pt 4	14
19	Declaration of corresponding law	14
Division 4	4.2 Approved gas appliances	
20	Approval of type A gas appliances	15
21	Approval of type B gas appliances	16
22	Register of approved gas appliances	16
23	Offences—sell or use unapproved gas appliance	16
24	Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gas appliances	17
24A	Offence—dispose of gas equipment otherwise than in accordance standards	with 19
25	Compliance indicators to be attached	19
26	Misuse of compliance indicators etc	20
Division 4	-	
27	Prohibited gas appliances	21
contents 2	Gas Safety Act 2000	R14
	Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15	30/03/15

		Contents
		Page
28	Prohibited gas appliances not be sold or used	21
29	Directions about unsafe gas appliances	22
30	Publication of safety warnings	23
Part 5	Serious gas accidents	
31	Definitions—pt 5	24
32	Reporting by occupiers and gasfitters etc	24
33	Reporting by relevant supplier	25
34	Interference with site of serious gas accident	25
35	Publication of report of serious gas accident	25
Part 6	Enforcement	
Division	6.1 General	
36	Definitions for pt 6	27
38	Construction occupations registrar may require information and documents	27
39	Contravention of requirement of construction occupations registrar	28
40	Appointment of inspectors	28
41	Identity cards	29
Division 6.2 Inspectors' powers		
42	General power to enter premises	30
43	Production of identity card	30
44	Consent to entry	
45	Warrants	31
46	Warrants—application made other than in person	32
47	General powers on entry to premises	34
48	Powers in relation to serious gas accidents	35
49	Power to inspect gasfitting work and gas appliance work	35
50	Powers in relation to consumer piping systems	36
51	Powers in relation to gas appliances	38
52	Defective equipment—disconnection etc	40
53	Power to require name and address	40
54	Power to seize evidence	41
55	Receipt for things seized	42
56	Access to things seized	42

R14	Gas Safety Act 2000	contents 3
30/03/15	Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15	

#### Contents

57	Return of things seized	Page 42
Division (		
58	Self-incrimination etc	43
63	Damage etc to be minimised	44
64	Compensation	44
Part 6A	Notification and review of decisions	
64A	Meaning of reviewable decision—pt 6A	46
64B	Reviewable decision notices	46
64C	Applications for review	46
Part 7	Miscellaneous	
65	Codes of practice	47
67	Determination of fees, charges and other amounts	48
68	Approved forms	48
69	Regulation-making power	49
Dictiona	ary	51
Endnotes		
1	About the endnotes	55
2	Abbreviation key	55

contents 4

3

4

5

Legislation history

Amendment history

Earlier republications

Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 56

59

66



# Gas Safety Act 2000

An Act about safety in relation to the use of gas, and for other purposes

Part 1PreliminaryDivision 1.1IntroductionSection 1

## Part 1 Preliminary

## Division 1.1 Introduction

#### 1 Name of Act

This Act is the Gas Safety Act 2000.

#### 3 Dictionary

The dictionary at the end of this Act is part of this Act.

*Note 1* The dictionary at the end of this Act defines certain words and expressions used in this Act, and includes references (*signpost definitions*) to other words and expressions defined elsewhere in this Act or in other legislation.

For example, the signpost definition '*gas network*-see the *Utilities Act* 2000, dictionary.' means that the expression 'gas network' is defined in that dictionary and the definition applies to this Act.

*Note 2* A definition in the dictionary (including a signpost definition) applies to the entire Act unless the definition, or another provision of the Act, provides otherwise or the contrary intention otherwise appears (see Legislation Act, s 155 and s 156 (1)).

#### 4 Notes

A note included in this Act is explanatory and is not part of this Act.

*Note* See Legislation Act, s 127 (1), (4) and (5) for the legal status of notes.

5 Offences against Act—application of Criminal Code etc

Other legislation applies in relation to offences against this Act.

Note 1 Criminal Code

The Criminal Code, ch 2 applies to the following offences against this Act (see Code, pt 2.1):

- s 8 (Offence—gasfitting work to comply with relevant standard)
- s 8A (Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gasfitting work)

page 2

R14 30/03/15

- s 9 (Offence—certificate of compliance)
- s 12 (Offence—unsafe consumer piping system)
- s 14 (Offence—standard of gas appliance work)
- s 14A (Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gas appliance work)
- s 23 (Offences—sell or use unapproved gas appliance)
- s 24 (Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gas appliances)
- s 24A (Offence—dispose of gas equipment otherwise than in accordance with standards)
- s 25 (Compliance indicators to be attached).

The chapter sets out the general principles of criminal responsibility (including burdens of proof and general defences), and defines terms used for offences to which the Code applies (eg *conduct*, *intention*, *recklessness* and *strict liability*).

Note 2 Penalty units

The Legislation Act, s 133 deals with the meaning of offence penalties that are expressed in penalty units.

## Division 1.2 Objects and important concepts

#### 6 Objects of Act

The main objects of this Act are to—

- (a) promote safe and efficient gas usage; and
- (b) establish a regulatory system for the following:
  - (i) the installation, operation, maintenance and repair of consumer piping systems;
  - (ii) the connection of gas appliances to consumer piping systems;
  - (iii) the commissioning, maintenance, repair and servicing of gas appliances connected to consumer piping systems;

(iv) the testing and inspection of consumer piping systems and gas appliances.

### 6A Meaning of gas appliance

In this Act:

*gas appliance* means a gas burning appliance that is manufactured, adapted or designed for connection to a consumer piping system.

### 6B Meaning of type A gas appliance work

In this Act:

*type A gas appliance work* means the maintenance, repair or service of a type A gas appliance other than—

- (a) gasfitting work; or
- (b) work exempted by regulation.

## 6C Meaning of type B gas appliance work

In this Act:

*type B gas appliance work* means the installation, commissioning, maintenance, modification, repair or service of a type B gas appliance connected to a consumer piping system other than—

- (a) gasfitting work (excluding the connection of a type B gas appliance to, and the disconnection of a type B gas appliance from, a gas isolation valve in a consumer piping system); or
- (b) work exempted by regulation.

### 6D Meaning of gas appliance worker

In this Act:

gas appliance worker means a person licensed in the construction occupation of gas appliance worker under the *Construction Occupations (Licensing) Act 2004*, part 3.

R14 30/03/15

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## 6E Meaning of gasfitter

In this Act:

*gasfitter* means a person licensed in the advanced or general construction occupation class, for the construction occupation of gasfitter, under the *Construction Occupations (Licensing) Act 2004*, part 3.

## 6F Meaning of *gasfitting work*

In this Act:

## gasfitting work—

- (a) means—
  - (i) work on a consumer piping system, or proposed consumer piping system, including the connection or disconnection of a gas appliance (other than a gas appliance designed to be portable by users and connected by means of a flexible hose to a gas bayonet or gas turret) to or from the system; or
  - (ii) the inspection or testing of a consumer piping system; and
- (b) includes the installation of a flue for a type A gas appliance; but
- (c) does not include the installation of a flue for a type B gas appliance.

6G Meaning of gas safety legislation

In this Act:

gas safety legislation means-

(a) this Act; and

- (b) the Construction Occupations (Licensing) Act 2004.
- *Note* A reference to an Act includes a reference to the statutory instruments made or in force under the Act, including any regulation (see Legislation Act, s 104).

## 6H Meaning of *relevant standard*

(1) In this Act:

#### relevant standard—

- (a) for gasfitting and gasfitting work means—
  - (i) AS/NZS 5601 as in force from time to time; or
  - (ii) if another standard is prescribed—that standard; and
- (b) for gas appliances and gas appliance work means—
  - (i) in relation to a type A gas appliance—
    - (A) AS/NZS 5601 as in force from time to time; or
    - (B) if another standard is prescribed—that standard; and
  - (ii) in relation to a type B gas appliance—
    - (A) AS/NZS 1375, AS/NZS 3814 and AS/NZS 5601 as in force from time to time; or
    - (B) if another standard is prescribed—that standard.
- (2) The Legislation Act, section 47 (6) does not apply to AS/NZS 1375, AS/NZS 3814 or AS/NZS 5601.
  - *Note* AS/NZS 1375, AS/NZS 3814 and AS/NZS 5601 do not need to be notified under the Legislation Act because s 47 (6) does not apply (see Legislation Act, s 47 (7)). The standards may be purchased at www.standards.org.au.

Part 2Work safety and standards

## Division 2.1 Gasfitting work

8

## Offence—gasfitting work to comply with relevant standard

- (1) A gasfitter commits an offence if-
  - (a) the gasfitter carries out gasfitting work; and
  - (b) the gasfitter fails to carry out the gasfitting work—
    - (i) in a safe and skilful way; and
    - (ii) in accordance with the relevant standard.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) A regulation may prescribe considerations to be taken into account to decide whether gasfitting work is carried out in a safe and skilful way.

# 8A Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gasfitting work

- (1) A gasfitter commits an offence if—
  - (a) the gasfitter carries out gasfitting work; and
  - (b) the work does not comply with a regulation about energy efficiency or environmental harm that applies to the work.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

*Note* Power to make a statutory instrument (including a regulation) includes power to make different provision in relation to different matters or different classes of matters, and to make an instrument that applies differently by reference to stated exceptions or factors (see Legislation Act, s 48).

- (2) A gasfitter commits an offence if—
  - (a) the gasfitter carries out gasfitting work on a consumer piping system; and
  - (b) the consumer piping system does not comply with a regulation about energy efficiency or environmental harm that applies to the work.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

*Note* The *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012* (Cwlth) (the *Commonwealth Act*) applies greenhouse and energy minimum standards (*GEMS*) in association with the supply and commercial use of products that use energy, or affect the energy used by another product. These standards are provided for by requirements in GEMS determinations.

Section 8A only operates if a regulation is made for it, and s 8A and the regulation are consistent with the Commonwealth Act and able to operate concurrently with it (see Self-Government Act, s 28 and Commonwealth Act, s 9).

### 9 Offence—certificate of compliance

A responsible gasfitter commits an offence if—

- (a) the gasfitter finishes gasfitting work; and
- (b) the gasfitter fails to give each person prescribed by regulation, a written statement (a *certificate of compliance*) certifying that—
  - (i) the finished gasfitting work was carried out in accordance with the gas safety legislation; and

page 8

(ii) any consumer piping system or appliance that is part of the finished gasfitting work is safe to use and complies with the gas safety legislation.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

- *Note 1* Section 8 requires gasfitting work to be carried out to a particular standard and in accordance with particular standards.
- *Note 2* If a form is approved under s 68 for this provision, the form must be used.

### 11 False certificates of compliance

A person must not give a certificate that falsely purports to be a certificate of compliance.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

## 12 Offence—unsafe consumer piping system

A gasfitter commits an offence if-

- (a) the gasfitter carries out gasfitting work on a consumer piping system; and
- (b) the system poses a substantive risk to the safety of any person or property; and
- (c) the gasfitter fails—
  - (i) to take immediate action to eliminate the risk; or
  - (ii) to give notice in writing about the risk, and the action taken to eliminate the risk, to each person prescribed by regulation as soon as practicable.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

Part 2Work safety and standardsDivision 2.2Gas appliance workSection 14

## Division 2.2 Gas appliance work

### 14 Offence—standard of gas appliance work

- (1) A gas appliance worker commits an offence if—
  - (a) the worker carries out gas appliance work; and
  - (b) the worker fails to carry out the gas appliance work—
    - (i) in a safe and skilful way; and
    - (ii) in accordance with the relevant standard.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) A regulation may prescribe considerations to be taken into account to decide whether gas appliance work is carried out in a safe and skilful way.

# 14A Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gas appliance work

- (1) A gas appliance worker commits an offence if—
  - (a) the worker carries out gas appliance work; and
  - (b) the work does not comply with a regulation about energy efficiency or environmental harm that applies to the work.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

- *Note* Power to make a statutory instrument (including a regulation) includes power to make different provision in relation to different matters or different classes of matters, and to make an instrument that applies differently by reference to stated exceptions or factors (see Legislation Act, s 48).
- (2) A gas appliance worker commits an offence if—
  - (a) the worker carries out gas appliance work on a gas appliance; and

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(b) the gas appliance does not comply with a regulation about energy efficiency or environmental harm that applies to the appliance.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

*Note* The *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012* (Cwlth) (the *Commonwealth Act*) applies greenhouse and energy minimum standards (*GEMS*) in association with the supply and commercial use of products that use energy, or affect the energy used by another product. These standards are provided for by requirements in GEMS determinations.

Section 14A only operates if a regulation is made for it, and s 14A and the regulation are consistent with the Commonwealth Act and able to operate concurrently with it (see Self-Government Act, s 28 and Commonwealth Act, s 9).

# Part 3 Responsibilities of owners and users

#### 15 Consumer piping system—owner's responsibility

- (1) The owner of premises on which there is a consumer piping system must take reasonable steps to ensure that the system is—
  - (a) in good condition and repair; and
  - (b) safe to use.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

- (2) Without limiting the operation of subsection (1), a person complies with that subsection if—
  - (a) the person relies on, and acts in accordance with, the advice of a gasfitter; and
  - (b) it is reasonable in the circumstances to do so.
- (3) In this section:

*advice of a gasfitter* includes receipt of a certificate of compliance from a gasfitter.

#### 16 Gas appliances—owner's responsibility

- (1) The owner of a gas appliance must take reasonable steps to ensure that the appliance is—
  - (a) in good condition and repair; and
  - (b) safe to use.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

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- (2) Without limiting the operation of subsection (1), a person complies with that subsection if—
  - (a) the person relies on, and acts in accordance with—
    - (i) the manufacturer's instructions; or
    - (ii) the advice of a gasfitter or a gas appliance worker; and
  - (b) it is reasonable in the circumstances to do so.

### 17 Gas appliances—user's responsibility

(1) A person who uses a gas appliance must take reasonable steps to ensure that the appliance is used safely.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

- (2) Without limiting the operation of subsection (1), a person complies with that subsection if—
  - (a) the person relies on, and acts in accordance with—
    - (i) the manufacturer's instructions for safe use; or
    - (ii) the advice of a gasfitter or a gas appliance worker; and
  - (b) it is reasonable in the circumstances to do so.

## Part 4 Regulation of gas appliances

## Division 4.1 General

## 18 Definitions for pt 4

In this part:

*approved*—a gas appliance is *approved* if—

- (a) the appliance is of a type approved under section 20 (an *approved type A gas appliance*); or
- (b) the appliance is approved by the construction occupations registrar under section 21 (an *approved type B gas appliance*); or
- (c) if the appliance is not an approved type A gas appliance or approved type B gas appliance—the appliance consumes gas at a rate of less than 10MJ/h.

*corresponding law* means a law declared by the Minister to be a corresponding law under section 19.

sell includes-

- (a) barter or exchange; and
- (b) let on hire; and
- (c) offer, expose or advertise for sale, barter, exchange or letting on hire.

*trader* means a person who sells gas appliances in the course of a trade or business.

## 19 Declaration of corresponding law

(1) The Minister may declare a law of a State or another Territory, being a law that contains provisions for the approval of type A gas appliances, to be a corresponding law for this part.

R14 30/03/15

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- (2) A declaration is a notifiable instrument.
  - *Note* A notifiable instrument must be notified under the Legislation Act.

## Division 4.2 Approved gas appliances

## 20 Approval of type A gas appliances

- (1) A gas appliance is an approved type A gas appliance if the appliance—
  - (a) is approved—
    - (i) under a corresponding law; or
    - (ii) under a regulation; and
  - (b) complies with any safety standard that applies to the appliance as a condition of that approval; and
  - (c) is used for a purpose for which it has been approved; and
  - (d) is not an appliance that has been declared a prohibited appliance under section 27.
- (2) A gas appliance ceases to be an approved type A gas appliance if the construction occupations registrar is satisfied that—
  - (a) under a corresponding law, appliances of that kind have been found unsafe to use or to not comply with a safety standard; or
  - (b) the appliance is prohibited under section 27; or
  - (c) a direction under section 29 (2) (Directions about unsafe gas appliances) is in force in relation to the appliance; or
  - (d) the appliance has been refused approval under a corresponding law; or
  - (e) the appliance ceases to be approved under a corresponding law.

## 21 Approval of type B gas appliances

- (1) A person may apply to the construction occupations registrar for approval of a type B gas appliance.
- (2) The construction occupations registrar may approve the type B gas appliance if the construction occupations registrar is satisfied—
  - (a) the appliance complies with the relevant standard; and
  - (b) the related gasfitting work and gas appliance work will be carried out in accordance with the gas safety legislation.

#### 22 Register of approved gas appliances

- (1) The construction occupations registrar must keep a register of—
  - (a) approved type A gas appliances approved under a regulation; and
  - (b) approved type B gas appliances approved under section 21; and
  - (c) any cancellation of approval under this part; and
  - (d) any gas appliances that are prohibited under this part; and
  - (e) any safety warnings issued under section 30 in relation to an approved gas appliance.
- (2) The construction occupations registrar must make the register available for public inspection during ordinary office hours at the office of the construction occupations registrar.

## 23 Offences—sell or use unapproved gas appliance

- (1) A person commits an offence if the person—
  - (a) sells a gas appliance; and

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(b) the gas appliance is not approved.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

- (2) A person commits an offence if the person—
  - (a) connects a gas appliance to a consumer piping system; and
  - (b) the gas appliance is not approved.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

- (3) A person commits an offence if the person—
  - (a) uses a gas appliance for a purpose involving the use of gas; and
  - (b) the gas appliance is not approved.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

(4) This section does not apply in circumstances prescribed under a regulation.

# 24 Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gas appliances

- (1) A trader commits an offence if—
  - (a) the trader sells a gas appliance; and
  - (b) the gas appliance does not comply with an energy efficiency standard prescribed by regulation that applies to the appliance.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

- (2) A trader commits an offence if—
  - (a) the trader sells a gas appliance; and

(b) an energy efficiency label is not attached to the appliance.

Maximum penalty: 10 penalty units.

- (3) A person commits an offence if—
  - (a) the person attaches an energy efficiency label to a gas appliance; and
  - (b) the gas appliance does not have the energy efficiency rating stated on the label.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

- (4) A person commits an offence if—
  - (a) the person attaches a label to a gas appliance; and
  - (b) the label resembles an energy efficiency label; and
  - (c) the label is not an energy efficiency label.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

- (5) This section does not apply to a second-hand gas appliance.
  - *Note* The defendant has an evidential burden in relation to the matters mentioned in s (5) (see Criminal Code, s 58).
- (6) An offence against this section is a strict liability offence.

(7) In this section:

*energy efficiency label* means an energy efficiency label prescribed by regulation.

*Note* The *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012* (Cwlth) (the *Commonwealth Act*) applies greenhouse and energy minimum standards (*GEMS*) in association with the supply and commercial use of products that use energy, or affect the energy used by another product. These standards are provided for by requirements in GEMS determinations.

Section 24 only operates if a regulation is made for it, and s 24 and the regulation are consistent with the Commonwealth Act and able to operate concurrently with it (see Self-Government Act, s 28 and Commonwealth Act, s 9).

# 24A Offence—dispose of gas equipment otherwise than in accordance with standards

A person commits an offence if—

- (a) the person disposes of an article that is—
  - (i) a consumer piping system or part of a consumer piping system; or
  - (ii) a gas appliance or part of a gas appliance; and
- (b) the disposal does not comply with a standard prescribed by regulation that applies to the article.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

#### 25 Compliance indicators to be attached

- (1) A trader commits an offence if—
  - (a) the trader sells a gas appliance; and
  - (b) the gas appliance—
    - (i) does not have a compliance indicator attached to it; or

(ii) has a compliance indicator attached to it that is not in accordance with the regulations.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if—
  - (a) the trader believed on reasonable grounds that the gas appliance was not capable of being used as a gas appliance; and
  - (b) the sale was made on the basis that the gas appliance could not be used as a gas appliance.
- (3) Subsection (1) does not apply to—
  - (a) a second-hand gas appliance; or
  - (b) a gas appliance within 6 months after it becomes an approved gas appliance.

#### 26 Misuse of compliance indicators etc

(1) A person must not attach a compliance indicator to a gas appliance except in accordance with the regulations.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) A person must not attach a compliance indicator to a gas appliance that is not approved.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(3) A person must not attach to a gas appliance anything that falsely purports to be a compliance indicator.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

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## Division 4.3 Prohibited and unsafe gas appliances

## 27 Prohibited gas appliances

- (1) The construction occupations registrar may, in writing, prohibit the sale or installation of gas appliances of a stated kind.
- (2) The construction occupations registrar may act under subsection (1) only if satisfied that—
  - (a) gas appliances of that kind are, or are likely to become, unsafe to use because of their design or construction; and
  - (b) the use of a gas appliance of that kind involves, or would involve, a risk of death or injury to a person or damage to property.
- (3) A prohibition is a notifiable instrument.

*Note* A notifiable instrument must be notified under the Legislation Act.

- (4) The construction occupations registrar must also publish notice of each prohibition in a daily newspaper.
- (5) A gas appliance that is subject to prohibition under this section ceases to be approved for this part on the day the notice takes effect.

## 28 Prohibited gas appliances not be sold or used

(1) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, sell a gas appliance that is prohibited.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

(2) A person must not (whether directly or by an agent), without reasonable excuse, connect a gas appliance that is prohibited to a consumer piping system.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

(3) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, use a gas appliance that is prohibited for a purpose that involves the use of gas.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

(4) This section does not apply in circumstances prescribed under the regulations.

## 29 Directions about unsafe gas appliances

- (1) This section applies if the construction occupations registrar is satisfied that—
  - (a) a trader has for sale, or may have sold, a gas appliance; and
  - (b) the gas appliance is prohibited, does not comply with the gas safety legislation or is, for any reason, unsafe.
- (2) The construction occupations registrar may give the trader a written direction to do any of the following:
  - (a) advertise, in a way stated in the direction, warnings approved by the registrar about the risks associated with the use of the gas appliance;
  - (b) refrain from selling the gas appliance;
  - (c) recall an appliance sold and—
    - (i) take action stated in the direction to make the gas appliance safe to use and compliant with the gas safety legislation; or
    - (ii) if it is not practicable to act in compliance with subparagraph (i) or the trader chooses not to take such action—refund to the purchaser the purchase price of the gas appliance.
  - *Note* For how documents may be given, see Legislation Act, pt 19.5.

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- (3) A direction to recall a gas appliance may require the trader—
  - (a) to give written notice of the recall to people to whom the trader sold, or may have sold, a gas appliance to which the direction relates; or
  - (b) to publish a notice of the recall in a daily newspaper.
- (4) A trader must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene a direction given to the trader under this section.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

### 30 Publication of safety warnings

- (1) The construction occupations registrar may publish warnings or information to increase public awareness about risks associated with the use of gas appliances.
- (2) Without limiting the operation of subsection (1), the construction occupations registrar may publish statements containing advice about the use of—
  - (a) a prohibited gas appliance; or
  - (b) a gas appliance to which a direction under section 29 applies.
- (3) A person is not personally liable for conduct done honestly and without recklessness—
  - (a) in the exercise of a function under this section; or
  - (b) in the reasonable belief that the conduct was in the exercise of a function under this section.
- (4) Any liability that would, apart from this section, attach to the person attaches instead to the Territory.
- (5) In this section:

*conduct* means an act or an omission to do an act.

#### Part 5 Serious gas accidents

Section 31

## Part 5 Serious gas accidents

#### 31 Definitions—pt 5

In this part:

*NERL retailer* means a person who holds a retailer authorisation under the *National Energy Retail Law (ACT)*.

relevant supplier, in relation to a serious gas accident, means-

- (a) the NERL retailer that supplies gas to the premises at which the accident occurred; or
- (b) the entity licensed to distribute gas for supply to the premises.

#### 32 Reporting by occupiers and gasfitters etc

- (1) The occupier of premises at which a serious gas accident occurs must tell each relevant supplier about the accident, by telephone, immediately after becoming aware of it.
- (2) If a serious gas accident occurs in relation to a consumer piping system, or a gas appliance, on which a person is working, the person must tell each relevant supplier about the accident, by telephone, immediately after becoming aware of it.
- (3) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene subsection (1) or (2).

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(4) Without limiting the operation of subsection (3), it is a reasonable excuse for a contravention of subsection (1) or (2) to believe on reasonable grounds that the relevant supplier had been told about the accident.

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## 33 Reporting by relevant supplier

A relevant supplier that becomes aware of the occurrence of a serious gas accident must not fail, without reasonable excuse, to tell the construction occupations registrar about the accident, by telephone, immediately after becoming aware of it.

Maximum penalty: 500 penalty units.

## 34 Interference with site of serious gas accident

- (1) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, disturb or interfere with the site of a serious gas accident before it has been inspected by an inspector, except—
  - (a) to make it safe; or
  - (b) with the permission of an inspector.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to disturbance or interference by the person—
  - (a) except where paragraph (b) applies—more than 24 hours after the accident; or
  - (b) if, within the 24 hours, the construction occupations registrar extends the period and tells the person of the extension—after the extended period expires.

## 35 Publication of report of serious gas accident

- (1) The construction occupations registrar may publish a report about a serious gas accident in the interest of public safety.
- (2) A person is not personally liable for an honest act or omission in relation to the exercise or purported exercise of a function under this section.

#### Part 5 Serious gas accidents

Section 35

(3) Subsection (2) does not affect any liability that the Territory would have, but for the operation of subsection (2), in relation to the act or omission.

page 26

Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 R14 30/03/15

## Part 6 Enforcement

## Division 6.1 General

## 36 Definitions for pt 6

In this part:

*business premises* means premises in which a business, trade, profession or calling is carried on, other than a part used for residential purposes.

*connected*—a thing is *connected* with an offence if—

- (a) the offence has been committed in relation to it; or
- (b) it will provide evidence of the commission of the offence; or
- (c) it was used, or is intended to be used, to commit the offence.

*offence* includes an offence that there are reasonable grounds for believing has been, is being, or will be committed.

# 38 Construction occupations registrar may require information and documents

- (1) If the construction occupations registrar is satisfied that a person is capable of providing information or producing a document that the authority reasonably requires for the gas safety legislation, the registrar may, by written notice given to the person, require the person—
  - (a) to give the information to the registrar in writing signed by the person or, in the case of a corporation, by an officer of the corporation; or
  - (b) to produce the document to the registrar.
  - *Note* For how documents may be given, see Legislation Act, pt 19.5.

- (2) The notice must state—
  - (a) the place at which the information or document is to be given or produced to the construction occupations registrar; and
  - (b) the time at which, or the period within which, the information or document is to be given or produced.
- (3) If a document is produced in accordance with a requirement under subsection (1), the construction occupations registrar—
  - (a) may—
    - (i) take possession of, and may make a copy of, or take extracts from, the document; and
    - (ii) retain possession of the document for such period as is necessary for the gas safety legislation; and
  - (b) must, during that period, allow a person who would be entitled to inspect the document, if it were not in the possession of the registrar, to inspect the document at any reasonable time.

# 39 Contravention of requirement of construction occupations registrar

A person must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene a requirement under section 38.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

#### 40 Appointment of inspectors

- (1) The construction occupations registrar may appoint a person as an inspector for the gas safety legislation.
  - *Note 1* For the making of appointments (including acting appointments), see Legislation Act, div 19.3.
  - *Note* 2 In particular, a person may be appointed for a particular provision of a law (see Legislation Act, s 7 (3)) and an appointment may be made by naming a person or nominating the occupant of a position (see s 207).

R14 30/03/15

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Section 41

- (3) A person must not be appointed under subsection (1) unless—
  - (a) the person is an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia; and
  - (b) the construction occupations registrar has certified in writing that, after appropriate inquiry, the registrar is satisfied that the person is a suitable person to be appointed, having regard in particular to—
    - (i) whether the person has any criminal convictions; and
    - (ii) the person's employment record; and
  - (c) the authority has certified in writing that the registrar is satisfied that the person—
    - (i) has satisfactorily completed adequate training; and
    - (ii) is competent;

to exercise the functions of an inspector proposed to be given to the person.

## 41 Identity cards

- (1) The construction occupations registrar must give to each inspector an identity card that specifies the inspector's name and appointment as an inspector, and on which appears a recent photograph of the inspector.
- (2) A person must, within 7 days after ceasing to be an inspector, return the identity card to the construction occupations registrar.

Maximum penalty (subsection (2)): 1 penalty unit.

## Division 6.2 Inspectors' powers

## 42 General power to enter premises

- (1) For the gas safety legislation, an inspector may—
  - (a) enter any premises at any time with the consent of the occupier; or
  - (b) enter premises when open to the public; or
  - (c) enter business premises during business hours at the premises; or
  - (d) enter premises in accordance with a warrant under this division.
- (2) An inspector may, without the occupier's consent or a warrant, enter the land around premises to ask the occupier for consent to enter the premises.

## 43 Production of identity card

An inspector may not remain on premises entered under this part if, on request by the occupier, the inspector does not produce his or her identity card.

### 44 Consent to entry

- (1) When seeking the consent of an occupier for entering premises under this part, an inspector must—
  - (a) produce his or her identity card; and
  - (b) tell the occupier—
    - (i) the purpose of the entry; and
    - (ii) that anything found and seized under this part may be used in evidence in court; and
    - (iii) that consent may be refused.

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- (2) If the occupier consents, the inspector must ask the occupier to sign a written acknowledgment—
  - (a) that the occupier was told—
    - (i) the purpose of the entry; and
    - (ii) that anything found and seized under this part may be used in evidence in court; and
    - (iii) that consent may be refused; and
  - (b) that the occupier consented to the entry; and
  - (c) stating the time, and day, when consent was given.
- (3) If the occupier signs an acknowledgment of consent, the inspector must immediately give a copy to the occupier.
- (4) Unless the contrary is proven, a court must presume that an occupier of premises did not consent to an entry to the premises by an inspector under this part if—
  - (a) the question whether the occupier consented to the entry arises in proceedings in the court; and
  - (b) an acknowledgment under this section is not produced in evidence for the entry; and
  - (c) it is not proved that the occupier consented to the entry.

## 45 Warrants

- (1) An inspector may apply to a magistrate for a warrant to enter premises.
- (2) The application must be sworn and state the grounds on which the warrant is sought.
- (3) The magistrate may refuse to consider the application until the inspector gives to the magistrate all the information the magistrate requires about the application in the way the magistrate requires.

- (4) The magistrate may issue a warrant only if satisfied there are reasonable grounds for suspecting—
  - (a) there is a particular thing or activity (the *evidence*) connected with an offence against the gas safety legislation; and
  - (b) the evidence is, or may be within the next 14 days, at the premises.
- (5) The warrant must state—
  - (a) that an inspector may, with necessary help and force, enter the premises and exercise the inspector's powers under this part; and
  - (b) the offence for which the warrant is sought; and
  - (c) the evidence that may be seized under the warrant; and
  - (d) the hours when the premises may be entered; and
  - (e) the date, within 14 days after the warrant's issue, the warrant ends.

## 46 Warrants—application made other than in person

- (1) An inspector may apply for a warrant by phone, fax, radio or other form of communication if the inspector considers it necessary because of—
  - (a) urgent circumstances; or
  - (b) other special circumstances.
- (2) Before applying for the warrant, the inspector must prepare an application stating the grounds on which the warrant is sought.
- (3) The inspector may apply for the warrant before the application is sworn.
- (4) After issuing the warrant, the magistrate must immediately fax a copy to the inspector if it is reasonably practicable to do so.

R14 30/03/15

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- (5) If it is not reasonably practicable to fax a copy to the inspector—
  - (a) the magistrate must—
    - (i) tell the inspector what the terms of the warrant are; and
    - (ii) tell the inspector the date and time the warrant was issued; and
  - (b) the inspector must complete a form of warrant (warrant form) and write on it—
    - (i) the magistrate's name; and
    - (ii) the date and time the magistrate issued the warrant; and
    - (iii) the warrant's terms.
- (6) The facsimile warrant, or the warrant form properly completed by the inspector, authorises the entry and the exercise of the inspector's powers under this part.
- (7) The inspector must, at the first reasonable opportunity, send to the magistrate—
  - (a) the sworn application; and
  - (b) if the inspector completed a warrant form—the completed warrant form.
- (8) On receiving the documents, the magistrate must attach them to the warrant.
- (9) Unless the contrary is proven, a court must presume that a power exercised by an inspector was not authorised by a warrant under this section if—
  - (a) the question arises in a proceeding before the court whether the exercise of power was authorised by a warrant; and
  - (b) the warrant is not produced in evidence.

## 47 General powers on entry to premises

- (1) An inspector who enters premises under this part may, for the gas safety legislation—
  - (a) inspect, measure, photograph or film the premises or anything on the premises; or
  - (b) copy a document on the premises; or
  - (c) test or take samples of or from anything on the premises; or
  - (d) take into the premises any people, equipment or material the inspector reasonably needs for exercising a power under the gas safety legislation; or
  - (e) require the occupier, or a person on the premises, to give to the inspector reasonable help to exercise a power under the gas safety legislation.
- (2) Without limiting the operation of subsection (1), an inspector who enters premises under this part may—
  - (a) check whether any consumer piping system or gas appliance on the premises—
    - (i) is safe; or
    - (ii) complies with the gas safety legislation; or
    - (iii) has a compliance indicator attached as required under the gas safety legislation; or
    - (iv) in the case of a gas appliance—is prohibited; or
  - (b) check whether any work done on a consumer piping system or a gas appliance—
    - (i) is safe; or
    - (ii) has been, or is being, done in accordance with the gas safety legislation.

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(3) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene a requirement under subsection (1) (e).

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

## 48 Powers in relation to serious gas accidents

- (1) This section applies if an inspector believes on reasonable grounds that a serious gas accident has occurred on premises.
- (2) The inspector may enter the premises at any reasonable time to investigate the accident, ensure the premises are safe and prevent the concealment, loss or destruction of anything reasonably relevant to the investigation.
- (3) The inspector may do anything necessary and reasonable for a purpose mentioned in subsection (2).
- (4) If an inspector acts under this section in the absence of the occupier, the inspector must, when leaving the premises, leave a written notice, secured in a conspicuous place, setting out—
  - (a) the inspector's name; and
  - (b) the time and date of the entry; and
  - (c) the purpose of the entry; and
  - (d) particulars of how to contact the inspector.
- (5) The power to enter premises under this section is additional to the powers under section 42 (General power to enter premises).

## 49

- Power to inspect gasfitting work and gas appliance work
  - (1) An inspector may enter and remain on premises to conduct a test or inspection required in order to find out whether gasfitting work or gas appliance work has been done in accordance with part 2 (Work safety and standards).

- (2) An inspector may enter and remain on the premises under subsection (1)—
  - (a) at any reasonable time; and
  - (b) with the people, equipment or material that the inspector reasonably needs to conduct the test or inspection.
- (3) However, the inspector may not, under this section—
  - (a) enter or remain on premises if, on request by the occupier, the inspector does not produce his or her identity card; or
  - (b) without the consent of the occupier, enter or remain on any part of the premises used for residential purposes.
- (4) The power to enter premises under this section is additional to the powers under section 42 (General power to enter premises).

## 50 Powers in relation to consumer piping systems

- (1) This section applies if an inspector believes on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) a consumer piping system does not comply with the gas safety legislation or is unsafe; or
  - (b) gasfitting work has been done otherwise than in accordance with the gas safety legislation.
- (2) The inspector may give the occupier of the premises where the consumer piping system is situated a written direction not to use any gas appliance connected to the system until the system is made safe and compliant with the gas safety legislation.
- (3) The inspector may give the owner of the consumer piping system a written direction to arrange for the system to be isolated or disconnected until the system is made safe and compliant with the gas safety legislation.

page 36

- (4) If the inspector believes on reasonable grounds that a consumer piping system is unsafe because work done or supervised by a gasfitter was not done in accordance with the gas safety legislation, the inspector may give the gasfitter a written direction to take stated action to make the system safe and compliant with the gas safety legislation.
- (5) A direction under this section may also require the person to give the inspector written information about the consumer piping system.

### Example

a written report about a test required in the direction by the person who did the test

- *Note* An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).
- (6) Subsection (7) applies if—
  - (a) a written direction under subsection (3) or subsection (4) requires a person to do a thing; and
  - (b) the person—
    - (i) is not licensed, authorised or qualified to do the thing; or
    - (ii) if a licence, authorisation or qualification is not required to do the thing—does not have appropriate experience and skill to do the thing.
- (7) The person must arrange, and pay for, the thing to be done by someone who—
  - (a) is licensed, authorised or qualified to do the thing; or

(b) if a licence, authorisation or qualification is not required to do the thing—has appropriate experience and skill to do the thing.

#### Example

A written direction under s (3) requires George to undertake further gasfitting work. George is no longer a licensed gasfitter, and he is not able to get a new licence. George must arrange, and pay for, a licensed gasfitter to do the gasfitting work.

(8) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene a direction given to the person under this section.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

## 51 Powers in relation to gas appliances

- (1) This section applies if an inspector believes on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) a person has a gas appliance that is—
    - (i) connected to a consumer piping system; or
    - (ii) for sale; and
  - (b) the gas appliance is not safe or compliant with the gas safety legislation.
- (2) Unless the gas appliance is made safe and compliant with the gas safety legislation, the inspector may give the person a written direction—
  - (a) not to use the appliance; or
  - (b) to arrange for it to be disconnected from the consumer piping system; or
  - (c) not to sell the appliance.
  - *Note* For how documents may be served, see Legislation Act, pt 19.5.

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- (3) If the inspector believes on reasonable grounds that a gas appliance is unsafe because work done on it by a gas appliance worker was not done in accordance with the gas safety legislation, the inspector may give the gas appliance worker a written direction to take stated action to make the appliance safe and compliant with the gas safety legislation.
- (4) A direction under this section may also require the person to give the inspector written information about the gas appliance or work.

### Example

a written report about a test required in the direction by the person who did the test

- *Note* An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).
- (5) Subsection (6) applies if—
  - (a) a written direction under subsection (2) or subsection (3) requires a person to do a thing; and
  - (b) the person—
    - (i) is not licensed, authorised or qualified to do the thing; or
    - (ii) if a licence, authorisation or qualification is not required to do the thing—does not have appropriate experience and skill to do the thing.
- (6) The person must arrange, and pay for, the thing to be done by someone who—
  - (a) is licensed, authorised or qualified to do the thing; or
  - (b) if a licence, authorisation or qualification is not required to do the thing—has appropriate experience and skill to do the thing.

(7) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene a direction given to the person under this section.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

## 52 Defective equipment—disconnection etc

- (1) If an inspector enters premises under this part and finds a consumer piping system or a gas appliance that the inspector believes on reasonable grounds is unsafe, the inspector may—
  - (a) isolate or disconnect the consumer piping system and label it conspicuously to indicate the danger; or
  - (b) disconnect the gas appliance and label it conspicuously to indicate the danger.
- (2) A person must not—
  - (a) use a gas appliance labelled under subsection (1) until it has been repaired or otherwise made safe to use; or
  - (b) without reasonable excuse, remove or interfere with a label mentioned in subsection (1) (a) or (b).

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

## 53 Power to require name and address

- (1) An inspector may require a person to state the person's name and address if the inspector—
  - (a) finds a person committing an offence against the gas safety legislation; or
  - (b) has reasonable grounds for believing that a person has committed an offence against the gas safety legislation.

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- (2) In exercising a power under subsection (1), an inspector must—
  - (a) tell the person of the reasons for the requirement; and
  - (b) as soon as practicable after telling the person, record those reasons.
- (3) A person is not required to comply with a requirement under subsection (1) if, on request by the person, the inspector does not produce his or her identity card.
- (4) Subject to this section, a person must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene a requirement under subsection (1).

Maximum penalty (subsection (4)): 5 penalty units.

## 54 Power to seize evidence

- (1) An inspector who enters premises under a warrant under this part may seize the evidence for which the warrant was issued.
- (2) An inspector who enters premises under this part with the consent of the occupier may seize a thing on the premises if—
  - (a) the inspector is satisfied the thing is connected with an offence against the gas safety legislation; and
  - (b) seizure of the thing is consistent with the purpose of the entry as told to the occupier when seeking the occupier's consent.
- (3) An inspector may also seize anything on premises entered under this part if the inspector is satisfied that—
  - (a) the thing is connected with an offence against the gas safety legislation; and
  - (b) the seizure is necessary to prevent the thing from being—
    - (i) concealed, lost or destroyed; or
    - (ii) used to commit, continue or repeat the offence.

- (4) Having seized a thing, an inspector may—
  - (a) remove the thing from the premises where it was seized (the place of seizure) to another place; or
  - (b) leave the thing at the place of seizure but restrict access to it.
- (5) A person must not, without the construction occupations registrar's approval, interfere with a thing to which access has been restricted under subsection (4).

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

## 55 Receipt for things seized

- (1) As soon as practicable after a thing is seized by an inspector under this part, the inspector must give a receipt for it to the person from whom it was seized.
- (2) If, for any reason, it is not practicable to comply with subsection (1), the inspector must leave the receipt, secured conspicuously at the place of seizure.

## 56 Access to things seized

A person who would, but for the seizure, be entitled to a thing seized under this part may—

- (a) inspect it; and
- (b) if it is a document—take extracts from it or make copies of it.

## 57 Return of things seized

- (1) A thing seized under this part must be returned to its owner, or reasonable compensation must be paid to the owner by the Territory for the loss of the thing, if—
  - (a) a prosecution for an offence relating to the thing is not instituted within 90 days of the seizure; or

R14 30/03/15

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Section 58

- (b) the court does not find the offence proved in a prosecution for an offence relating to the thing.
- (2) A thing seized under this part is forfeited to the Territory if a court—
  - (a) finds an offence relating to the thing to be proved; and
  - (b) orders the forfeiture.
- (3) If subsection (2) (a) applies, but a court does not order forfeiture of the thing seized, the construction occupations registrar must return the thing to its owner or the Territory must pay reasonable compensation to the owner for the loss of the thing.

## Division 6.3 Miscellaneous

## 58 Self-incrimination etc

- (1) A person is not excused from providing information or producing a document when required to do so under this part on the ground that the information or document may tend to incriminate the person.
- (2) However—
  - (a) the provision of the information or document; or
  - (b) any other information, document or thing obtained as a direct or indirect consequence of providing the information or document;

is not admissible in evidence against the person in criminal proceedings.

- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply to proceedings for—
  - (a) an offence under this part; or

- (b) any other offence relating to the falsity of the information or document.
- *Note 1* A reference to an offence against a Territory law includes a reference to a related ancillary offence, eg attempt (see Legislation Act, s 189).
- *Note 2* The Legislation Act, s 171 deals with the application of client legal privilege.

## 63 Damage etc to be minimised

- (1) In the exercise or purported exercise of a function under this part, an inspector must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the inspector, and any person assisting the inspector, causes as little inconvenience, detriment and damage as is practicable.
- (2) If an inspector, or a person assisting an inspector, damages anything in the exercise or purported exercise of a function under this part, the inspector must give written notice of the particulars of the damage to the person whom the inspector believes on reasonable grounds is the owner of the thing.
- (3) If the damage occurs on premises entered under this part in the absence of the occupier, the notice may be given by securing it in a conspicuous place on the premises.

*Note* For other ways documents may be given, see Legislation Act, pt 19.5.

## 64 Compensation

- (1) A person may claim reasonable compensation from the Territory if the person suffers loss or expense because of the exercise, or purported exercise of a function under this part by an inspector or a person assisting an inspector.
- (2) Compensation may be claimed and ordered in a proceeding for—
  - (a) compensation brought in a court of competent jurisdiction; or
  - (b) an offence against the gas safety legislation brought against the person making the claim for compensation.

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Enforcement Miscellaneous	Part 6 Division 6.3
	Section 64

- (3) A court may order the payment of reasonable compensation for the loss or expense only if it is satisfied it is just to make the order in the circumstances of the particular case.
- (4) The regulations may prescribe matters that may, must or must not be taken into account by the court in considering whether it is just to make the order.

Section 64A

#### Part 6A Notification and review of decisions

#### 64A Meaning of reviewable decision—pt 6A

In this part:

*reviewable decision* means a decision prescribed by regulation.

64B

## **Reviewable decision notices**

If a person makes a reviewable decision, the person must give a reviewable decision notice to each entity prescribed by regulation in relation to the decision.

- Note 1 The person must also take reasonable steps to give a reviewable decision notice to any other person whose interests are affected by the decision (see ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2008, s 67A).
- The requirements for reviewable decision notices are prescribed under Note 2 the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2008.

#### 64C **Applications for review**

The following may apply to the ACAT for review of a reviewable decision:

- (a) an entity prescribed by regulation in relation to the decision;
- (b) any other person whose interests are affected by the decision.
- If a form is approved under the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal Note Act 2008 for the application, the form must be used.

R14 30/03/15

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# Part 7 Miscellaneous

## 65 Codes of practice

- (1) The Minister may, in writing, approve codes of practice for this Act.
  - *Note* A power given under an Act to make a statutory instrument (including a code of practice) includes power to amend or repeal the instrument (see Legislation Act, s 46 (1)).
- (2) A code of practice may do the following:
  - (a) apply an instrument as in force from time to time;
  - (b) set out practices, standards and other matters about—
    - (i) the safe installation, connection, repair, maintenance or operation of consumer piping systems or gas appliances; or
    - (ii) notifications and certifications on completion of any gasfitting work or gas appliance work.
  - *Note* A statutory instrument may also apply, adopt or incorporate (with or without change) a law or instrument (or a provision of a law or instrument) as in force at a particular time (see Legislation Act, s 47 (1)).
- (3) An approved code of practice is a disallowable instrument.
  - *Note 1* A disallowable instrument must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the Legislation Act.
  - *Note* 2 An amendment or repeal of a code of practice is also a disallowable instrument (see Legislation Act, s 46 (2)).
- (4) For the gas safety legislation, a code is relevant to gasfitting work, gas appliance work, a consumer piping system or a gas appliance if the code purports to apply to it.

#### Part 7 Miscellaneous

Section 67

- (5) The construction occupations registrar must make a copy of each code, and any instrument (or provision of an instrument) applied (with or without change) by the code, available for public inspection during ordinary office hours at—
  - (a) the office of the construction occupations registrar; or
  - (b) another place prescribed under the regulations.
- (6) In this section:

applied includes adopted and incorporated.

## 67 Determination of fees, charges and other amounts

- (1) The Minister may, in writing, determine fees for this Act.
  - *Note* The Legislation Act contains provisions about the making of determinations and regulations relating to fees (see pt 6.3).
- (2) A determination is a disallowable instrument.
  - *Note* A disallowable instrument must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the Legislation Act.
- (3) In this section:

fee includes—

- (a) a fee that is a tax; and
- (b) a charge or other amount (whether or not it is a tax).

## 68 Approved forms

(1) The construction occupations registrar may, in writing, approve forms for this Act.

*Note* For other provisions about forms, see Legislation Act, s 255.

(2) If the construction occupations registrar approves a form for a particular purpose, the approved form must be used for that purpose.

R14 30/03/15

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## (3) An approved form is a notifiable instrument.

*Note* A notifiable instrument must be notified under the Legislation Act.

## 69 Regulation-making power

- (1) The Executive may make regulations for this Act.
  - *Note* Regulations must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the Legislation Act.
- (2) The regulations may make provision in relation to—
  - (a) the construction, installation or positioning of consumer piping systems or gas appliances; and
  - (b) the safety of people who own, or are likely to be near, a consumer piping system or a gas appliance; and
  - (c) the doing, inspecting and testing of gasfitting work or gas appliance work, including requirements for related notices; and
  - (d) compliance indicators, including their attachment to gas appliances and their removal; and
  - (e) certificates of compliance, including their provision and safekeeping; and
  - (f) the approval of type A gas appliances and type B gas appliances including—
    - (i) requirements in relation to applications for approval; and
    - (ii) requirements in relation to compliance with safety standards; and
    - (iii) conditions for the approval of appliances; and
    - (iv) the cancellation of approval of appliances; and
  - (g) meters; and

#### Part 7 Miscellaneous

Section 69

- (h) consumer piping systems and gas appliances to promote the efficient use or conservation of power and energy, or to limit harm to the environment; and
- (i) standards in relation to construction, installation, configuration, maintenance, repair, service, replacement, inspection, testing, labelling or disposal of consumer piping systems and gas appliances (or parts of consumer piping systems or gas appliances).
- (3) A regulation may apply, adopt or incorporate a law of another jurisdiction or an instrument, or a provision of a law of another jurisdiction or instrument, as in force at a particular time or from time to time.
- (4) The Legislation Act, section 47 (5) or (6) does not apply in relation to the law of another jurisdiction or an instrument applied, adopted or incorporated under a regulation.
  - *Note* Laws of another jurisdiction and instruments mentioned in s (2B) do not need to be notified under the Legislation Act because s 47 (5) and (6) do not apply (see Legislation Act, s 47 (7)).
- (5) The regulations may also prescribe offences for contraventions of the regulations and prescribe maximum penalties of not more than 60 penalty units for offences against the regulations.

page 50

Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15

# Dictionary

(see s 3)

*Note 1* The Legislation Act contains definitions and other provisions relevant to this Act.

*Note 2* In particular, the Legislation Act, dict, pt 1, defines the following terms:

- ACAT
- construction occupations registrar
- contravene
- daily newspaper
- disallowable instrument
- document
- magistrate
- National Gas (ACT) Law
- notifiable instrument
- penalty unit (see s 133)
- reviewable decision notice
- State
- the Territory.

approved, for part 4 (Regulation of gas appliances)—see section 18.

AS/NZS 1375 means AS/NZS 1375 (Industrial fuel-fired appliances).

*AS/NZS 3814* means AS/NZS 3814 (Industrial and commercial gas-fired appliances).

AS/NZS 5601 means AS/NZS 5601 (Gas installations).

business premises, for part 6 (Enforcement)—see section 36.

*certificate of compliance*—see section 9.

*code* means a code of practice approved under section 65 (Codes of practice) as in force from time to time.

*compliance indicator* means a plate or label for a gas appliance that states the information about the gas appliance and its use.

page 51

*connected*, with an offence, for part 6 (Enforcement)—see section 36.

### consumer piping system—

- (a) means a system of pipes, pipe fasteners, and things connected to the pipes, that is used, or to be used, to carry gas from—
  - (i) the outlet of a meter to measure the consumption of gas on the premises to a gas appliance inlet; or
  - (ii) the outlet of a gas storage tank or cylinder to a gas appliance inlet; but
- (b) does not include something that connects the tank or cylinder outlet to the gas regulator that is closest to the tank or cylinder.

*corresponding law*, for part 4 (Regulation of gas appliances)—see section 18.

*equipment* includes items such as pressure control devices, excess flow valves, control valves and filters.

gas means—

- (a) natural gas; or
- (b) a gas (*LPG*) in its vapour phase composed predominantly of 1 or more of the following hydrocarbons:
  - (i) propane;
  - (ii) propene (propylene);
  - (iii) butane;
  - (iv) butene (butylene).

gas appliance—see section 6A.

gas appliance worker—see section 6D.

gasfitter—see section 6E.

gasfitting work—see section 6F.

page 52

R14 30/03/15

gas network—see the Utilities Act 2000, dictionary.

gas safety legislation—see section 6G.

*high pressure consumer piping system* means a consumer piping system that conveys gas at a pressure greater than 21 kPa.

*inspector* means a person appointed under section 40 (Appointment of inspectors).

*meter* means a meter for measuring the quantity of gas supplied to premises from a gas network.

natural gas—see the National Gas (ACT) Law, section 2.

occupier, of premises, includes-

- (a) a person who appears to be at least 18 years of age and is believed on reasonable grounds to be an occupier of the premises; and
- (b) a person apparently in charge of the premises.

offence, for part 6 (Enforcement)-see section 36.

owner, of premises, means the lessor.

*premises* means a building, structure or place (whether built on or not and whether enclosed or not) and includes an aircraft, a vessel and a vehicle.

#### Examples of vehicle

caravan, campertrailer, motor home, mobile catering vehicle

*relevant standard*—see section 6H.

*relevant supplier*, in relation to a serious gas accident, for part 5 (Serious gas accidents)—see section 31.

## responsible gasfitter means—

- (a) if there is a gasfitter supervising the gasfitting work—the supervising gasfitter; or
- (b) in any other case—the gasfitter who does the gasfitting work.

R14	Gas Safety Act 2000	page 53
30/03/15	Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15	

*reviewable decision*, for part 6A (Notification and review of decisions)—see section 64A.

*sell*, for part 4 (Regulation of gas appliances)—see section 18.

*serious gas accident* means an accident in which gas causes, or contributes to—

- (a) the death of a person; or
- (b) injury to a person that requires medical attention; or
- (c) damage to property where the reasonable cost of repair or replacement exceeds the amount prescribed under the regulations for this definition; or
- (d) a fire.

*trader*, for part 4 (Regulation of gas appliances)—see section 18.

*type A gas appliance* means a gas appliance that is of a type approved under a corresponding law and that is not a type B gas appliance.

type A gas appliance work—see section 6B.

### type B gas appliance—

- (a) means a gas appliance that consumes gas at a rate of 10MJ/h or more and—
  - (i) is not approved under a corresponding law; or
  - (ii) is approved under a corresponding law but the proposed use of the appliance is outside of the use approved under the corresponding law; and
- (b) includes any components and fittings of that appliance downstream of, and including, the appliance manual shut-off valve.

*type B gas appliance work*—see section 6C.

page 54

R14 30/03/15

## Endnotes

2

## About the endnotes

Amending and modifying laws are annotated in the legislation history and the amendment history. Current modifications are not included in the republished law but are set out in the endnotes.

Not all editorial amendments made under the *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 are annotated in the amendment history. Full details of any amendments can be obtained from the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

Uncommenced amending laws are not included in the republished law. The details of these laws are underlined in the legislation history. Uncommenced expiries are underlined in the legislation history and amendment history.

If all the provisions of the law have been renumbered, a table of renumbered provisions gives details of previous and current numbering.

The endnotes also include a table of earlier republications.

A = Act AF = Approved form am = amended amdt = amendment AR = Assembly resolution ch = chapter CN = Commencement notice def = definition DI = Disallowable instrument dict = dictionary disallowed = disallowed by the Legislative Assembly div = division exp = expires/expired Gaz = gazette hdg = heading	NI = Notifiable instrument o = order om = omitted/repealed ord = ordinance orig = original par = paragraph/subparagraph pres = present prev = previous (prev) = previously pt = part r = rule/subrule reloc = relocated renum = renumbered R[X] = Republication No RI = reissue s = section/subsection
disallowed = disallowed by the Legislative	r = rule/subrule
Assembly	reloc = relocated
div = division	renum = renumbered
exp = expires/expired	R[X] = Republication No
Gaz = gazette	RI = reissue
hdg = heading	s = section/subsection
IA = Interpretation Act 1967	sch = schedule
ins = inserted/added	sdiv = subdivision
LA = Legislation Act 2001	SL = Subordinate law
LR = legislation register	sub = substituted
LRA = Legislation (Republication) Act 1996	<u>underlining</u> = whole or part not commenced
mod = modified/modification	or to be expired
mod = modified/modification	of to be expired

## Abbreviation key

R14 30/03/15 Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 page 55

<sup>1</sup> 

3 Legislation history

## 3 Legislation history

#### Gas Safety Act 2000 A2000-67

notified 20 December 2000 (Gaz 2000 No S68) s 1, s 2 commenced 20 December 2000 (IA s 10B) ss 3-12, 15-17, 31-72 commenced 20 June 2001 (IA s 10E) remainder commenced 20 December 2001 (s 2 (2))

as amended by

## Legislation (Consequential Amendments) Act 2001 A2001-44 pt 166

notified 26 July 2001 (Gaz 2001 No 30) s 1, s 2 commenced 26 July 2001 (IA s 10B) pt 166 commenced 12 September 2001 (s 2 and see Gaz 2001 No S65)

#### Legislation Amendment Act 2002 A2002-11 pt 2.24

notified LR 27 May 2002 s 1, s 2 commenced 27 May 2002 (LA s 75) pt 2.24 commenced 28 May 2002 (s 2 (1))

## Criminal Code 2002 No 51 pt 1.10

notified LR 20 December 2002 s 1, s 2 commenced 20 December 2002 (LA s 75 (1)) pt 1.10 commenced 1 January 2002 (s 2 (1))

### Statute Law Amendment Act 2003 A2003-41 sch 3 pt 3.13

notified LR 11 September 2003 s 1, s 2 commenced 11 September 2003 (LA s 75 (1)) sch 3 pt 3.13 commenced 9 October 2003 (s 2 (1))

#### **Construction Occupations Legislation Amendment Act 2004**

A2004-13 sch 1 pt 1.1, sch 2 pt 2.14 notified LR 26 March 2004 s 1, s 2 commenced 26 March 2004 (LA s 75 (1)) sch 1 pt 1.1, sch 2 pt 2.14 commenced 1 September 2004 (s 2 and see Construction Occupations (Licensing) Act 2004 A2004-12 s 2)

R14 30/03/15

Legislation hi	story 3
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### Criminal Code (Theft, Fraud, Bribery and Related Offences) Amendment Act 2004 A2004-15 sch 2 pt 2.41

notified LR 26 March 2004 s 1, s 2 commenced 26 March 2004 (LA s 75 (1)) sch 2 pt 2.41 commenced 9 April 2004 (s 2 (1))

#### National Gas (ACT) Act 2008 A2008-15 sch 2 pt 2.1

notified LR 30 June 2008

s 1, s 2 commenced 30 June 2008 (LA s 75 (1)) sch 2 pt 2.1 commenced 1 July 2008 (s 2 (1) and see National Gas (South Australia) Act 2008 (SA), s 7)

#### Statute Law Amendment Act 2008 A2008-28 sch 3 pt 3.30

notified LR 12 August 2008 s 1, s 2 commenced 12 August 2008 (LA s 75 (1)) sch 3 pt 3.30 commenced 26 August 2008 (s 2)

## ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal Legislation Amendment Act 2008 (No 2) A2008-37 sch 1 pt 1.48

notified LR 4 September 2008

s 1, s 2 commenced 4 September 2008 (LA s 75 (1)) sch 1 pt 1.48 commenced 2 February 2009 (s 2 (1) and see ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2008 A2008-35, s 2 (1) and CN2009-2)

#### Statute Law Amendment Act 2009 A2009-20 sch 3 pt 3.34

notified LR 1 September 2009 s 1, s 2 commenced 1 September 2009 (LA s 75 (1)) sch 3 pt 3.34 commenced 22 September 2009 (s 2)

Planning and Building Legislation Amendment Act 2011 A2011-23 pt 5

1.5

notified LR 6 July 2011 pt 1 commenced 6 July 2011 (s 2 (1)) pt 5 commenced 7 July 2011 (s 2 (5))

### National Energy Retail Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012 A2012-32 pt 9

notified LR 14 June 2012 s 1, s 2 commenced 14 June 2012 (LA s 75 (1)) pt 9 commenced 1 July 2012 (s 2 (1) and see National Energy Retail Law (ACT) Act 2012 A2012-31, s 2 (1) and CN2012-12)

R14 30/03/15 Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 page 57

3 Legislation history

## Gas Safety Legislation Amendment Act 2014 A2014-38 pt 4

notified LR 30 September 2014

s 1, s 2 commenced 30 September 2014 (LA s 75 (1))

pt 4 commenced 30 March 2015 (s 2 and LA s 79)  $\,$ 

page 58

Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 R14 30/03/15

### 4 Amendment history

Introduction div 1.1 hdg ins A2014-38 s 17 Commencement sub A2001-44 amdt 1.1941 s 2 om LA s 89 (4) Offences against Act—application of Criminal Code etc s 5 sub A2001-44 amdt 1.1942; A2014-38 s 18 **Objects and important concepts** div 1.2 hdg ins A2014-38 s 18 **Objects of Act** s 6 om A2001-44 amdt 1.1943 ins A2014-38 s 18 Meaning of gas appliance ins A2014-38 s 18 s 6A Meaning of type A gas appliance work s 6B ins A2014-38 s 18 Meaning of type B gas appliance work ins A2014-38 s 18 s 6C Meaning of gas appliance worker s 6D ins A2014-38 s 18 Meaning of gasfitter s 6E ins A2014-38 s 18 Meaning of gasfitting work s 6F ins A2014-38 s 18 Meaning of gas safety legislation s 6G ins A2014-38 s 18 Meaning of relevant standard s 6H ins A2014-38 s 18 Work to be done by qualified people om A2004-13 amdt 2.50 s 7 Offence-gasfitting work to comply with relevant standard s 8 sub A2014-38 s 19 Offences-energy efficiency requirements for gasfitting work s 8A ins A2014-38 s 19 Offence-certificate of compliance sub A2014-38 s 20 s 9

R14 30/03/15 Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 page 59

4 Amendment history

```
Misuse of compliance indicators etc
                  om A2014-38 s 21
s 10
Offence—unsafe consumer piping system
                  sub A2014-38 s 22
s 12
Gas appliance work
div 2.2 hdg
                  sub A2014-38 s 23
Work to be done by accredited people
                  om A2014-38 s 24
s 13
Offence-standard of gas appliance work
                  sub A2014-38 s 25
s 14
Offences—energy efficiency requirements for gas appliance work
                  ins A2014-38 s 25
s 14A
Consumer piping system—owner's responsibility
s 15
                  am A2014-38 s 26
Gas appliances—owner's responsibility
                  sub A2014-38 s 27
s 16 hdg
                  am A2014-38 s 28. s 29
s 16
Gas appliances-user's responsibility
s 17 hdg
                  sub A2014-38 s 30
                  am A2014-38 s 31, s 32
s 17
Regulation of gas appliances
pt 4 hdg
                  sub A2014-38 s 33
Definitions for pt 4
                  def approved ins A2014-38 s 34
s 18
                  def corresponding law ins A2014-38 s 34
                  def trader am A2014-38 s 35
Declaration of corresponding law
                  sub A2004-13 amdt 2.51; A2014-38 s 36
s 19
Approved gas appliances
div 4.2 hdg
                  sub A2014-38 s 37
Approval of type A gas appliances
                  am A2001-44 amdt 1.1944
s 20
                  sub A2014-38 s 38
Approval of type B gas appliances
                  am A2004-13 amdt 2.59
s 21 hdg
                  am A2004-13 amdt 2.59
s 21
                  sub A2014-38 s 38
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page 60

Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 R14 30/03/15

Amendment history 4

Register of approved gas appliances s 22 am A2001-44 amdts 1.1945, amdt 1.1946; A2003-41 amdt 3.277; A2004-13 amdt 2.59, amdt 2.60 sub A2014-38 s 38 Offences-sell or use unapproved gas appliance s 23 am A2004-13 amdt 2.59 sub A2014-38 s 38 Offences-energy efficiency requirements for gas appliances sub A2014-38 s 38 s 24 Offence-dispose of gas equipment otherwise than in accordance with standards s 24A sub A2014-38 s 38 Compliance indicators to be attached s 25 am A2014-38 ss 39-43; ss renum R14 LA Misuse of compliance indicators etc am A2014-38 s 44 s 26 Prohibited and unsafe gas appliances div 4.3 hdg sub A2014-38 s 45 **Prohibited gas appliances** sub A2014-38 s 46 s 27 hdg s 27 am A2001-44 amdts 1.1947-1.1950; A2004-13 amdt 2.59; A2014-38 ss 47-51 Prohibited gas appliances not be sold or used s 28 hdg sub A2014-38 s 52 s 28 am A2014-38 s 53 Directions about unsafe gas appliances s 29 hdg sub A2014-38 s 45 s 29 am A2003-41 amdt 3.278, amdt 3.279; A2004-13 amdt 2.59, amdt 2.60; A2014-38 ss 55-58 **Publication of safety warnings** am A2003-41 amdt 3.280; A2004-13 amdt 2.59, A2008-28 s 30 amdt 3.95; A2014-38 ss 59-63 Definitions—pt 5 s 31 sub A2004-13 amdt 1.1; A2012-32 s 52 def NERL retailer ins A2012-32 s 52 def relevant supplier am A2012-32 s 52 Reporting by occupiers and gasfitters etc am A2004-13 amdt 1.2; A2014-38 s 64 s 32 Reporting by relevant utility s 33 am A2004-13 amdt 1.2, amdt 2.59; A2014-38 s 65

R14 30/03/15 Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 page 61

4

Am	Amendment history			
	Interference with site of serious gas accident s 34 am A2004-13 amdt 2.59; A2014-38 s 65			
	Publication of rep s 35	ort of serious gas accident am A2003-41 amdt 3.281; A2004-13 amdt 2.59; A2014-38 s 65		
	<b>Definitions for pt</b> 6 s 36	6 def <i>connected</i> ins A2003-41 amdt 3.282		
	Things connected with offencess 37om A2003-41 amdt 3.283			
	<b>Construction occu</b> s 38 hdg s 38	upations registrar may require information and documents am A2004-13 amdt 2.59 sub A2014-38 s 66 am A2003-41 amdt 3.284; A2004-13 amdt 2.59, amdt 2.60; A2014-38 s 67, s 68		
	Contravention of r s 39 hdg	requirement of construction occupations registrar am A2004-13 amdt 2.59 sub A2014-38 s 69		
	Appointment of in s 40	am A2003-41 amdts 3.285-3.287; A2004-13 amdt 2.59, amdt 2.60; A2014-38 s 70, s 71		
	Identity cards s 41	am A2004-13 amdt 2.59; A2014-38 s 72		
	General powers of s 47	<b>n entry to premises</b> am A2014-38 s 73, s 74		
	Power to inspect gasfitting work and gas appliance works 49 hdgsub A2014-38 s 75s 49am A2003-41 amdt 3.288; A2014-38 s 76Powers in relation to consumer piping systemss 50am A2014-38 s 77, s 78; ss renum R14 LA			
	Powers in relation s 51 hdg s 51	to gas appliances sub A2014-38 s 79 am A2003-41 amdt 3.289; A2014-38 ss 80-83; ss renum R14 LA		
	<b>Defective equipme</b> s 52	ent—disconnection etc am A2014-38 ss 84-86		
	<b>Power to require r</b> s 53	name and address am A2003-41 amdt 3.290, amdt 3.291		
	<b>Power to seize ev</b> s 54	idence am R7 LA (see A2004-13 amdt 2.59); A2014-38 s 87		

page 62

Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15

R14 30/03/15

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Amendment history 4
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```
Return of things seized
s 57
                  am A2004-13 amdt 2.59; A2014-38 s 88
Miscellaneous
pt 7 hdg
                  orig pt 7 hdg om A2001-44 amdt 1.1951
                  (prev pt 8 hdg) renum A2001-44 amdt 1.1952
Self-incrimination etc
                  am A2002-11 amdt 2.47; A2002-51 amdt 1.21
s 58
Legal professional privilege
                  om A2002-11 amdt 2.48
s 59
Providing false or misleading information
s 60
                  om A2004-15 amdt 2.93
Providing false or misleading documents
                  om A2004-15 amdt 2.93
s 61
Obstruction of inspectors
                  om A2004-15 amdt 2.93
s 62
Damage etc to be minimised
                  am A2003-41 amdts 3.292-3.294
s 63
Compensation
s 64
                  am A2003-41 amdt 3.295
Notification and review of decisions
pt 6A hdg
                  ins A2008-37 amdt 1.217
Meaning of reviewable decision-pt 6A
s 64A
                  ins A2008-37 amdt 1.217
Reviewable decision notices
                  ins A2008-37 amdt 1.217
s 64B
Applications for review
s 64C
                  ins A2008-37 amdt 1.217
Codes of practice
                  orig s 65 om A2001-44 amdt 1.1951
s 65
                  ins A2001-44 amdt 1.1953
                  am A2004-13 amdt 2.52; A2011-23 ss 11-13; A2014-38 ss 89-
                   91
Review of decisions
s 66
                  orig s 66 om A2001-44 amdt 1.1951
                  (prev s 70) renum A2001-44 amdt 1.1954
                  am A2004-13 amdt 2.59
                  om A2008-37 amdt 1.218
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R14 30/03/15 Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 page 63

4 Amendment history

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Determination of fees, charges and other amounts
                  orig s 67 om A2001-44 amdt 1.1951
s 67
                  ins A2001-44 amdt 1.1955
Approved forms
                  orig s 68 om A2001-44 amdt 1.1951
s 68
                  ins A2001-44 amdt 1.1955
                  am A2003-41 amdt 3.296; A2014-38 s 92
Miscellaneous
pt 8 hdg
                  renum as pt 7 hdg
Regulation-making power
                  orig s 69 om A2001-44 amdt 1.1953
s 69
                  (prev s 72) am A2001-44 amdt 1.1956, amdt 1.1957
                  renum A2001-44 amdt 1.1958; A2014-38 ss 93-100; ss renum
                   R14 LA
Review of decisions
s 70
                  renum as s 66
Approved forms
s 71
                  om A2001-44 amdt 1.1955
Regulation-making power
                  renum as s 69
s 72
Dictionary
dict
                  am A2003-41 amdt 3.297; A2004-13 amdt 2.53; A2008-15
                   amdt 2.1; A2008-37 amdt 1.219, amdt 1.220; A2009-20
                   amdt 3.81; A2011-23 s 14
                  def accredited om A2014-38 s 101
                  def advanced gasfitter om A2004-13 amdt 2.54
                  def appliance om A2014-38 s 101
                  def appliance work om A2014-38 s 101
                  def approved sub A2004-13 amdt 2.55; A2014-38 s 102
                  def AS/NZS 1375 ins A2014-38 s 103
                  def AS/NZS 3814 ins A2014-38 s 103
                  def AS/NZS 5601 ins A2014-38 s 103
                  def business premises ins A2003-41 amdt 3.298
                  def certificate of compliance sub A2014-38 s 104
                  def code am A2003-41 amdt 3.299
                  def compliance indicator sub A2014-38 s 105
                  def connected ins A2003-41 amdt 3.300
                  def consumer piping system sub A2004-13 amdt 1.3
                  def corresponding law sub A2014-38 s 106
                  def daily newspaper am A2003-41 amdt 3.301
                     om A2009-20 amdt 3.82
```

page 64

Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 R14 30/03/15

def gas sub A2004-13 amdt 1.4; A2008-15 amdt 2.2 def gas appliance ins A2014-38 s 107 def gas appliance worker ins A2014-38 s 107 def gasfitter sub A2004-13 amdt 2.56; A2014-38 s 108 def gasfitting work sub A2004-13 amdt 2.57; A2014-38 s 108 def gas safety legislation am A2014-38 s 109 def natural gas ins A2008-15 amdt 2.3 def offence ins A2003-41 amdt 3.302 def owner sub A2003-41 amdt 3.303 def premises am A2004-13 amdt 2.58 def *prohibited* om A2014-38 s 110 def relevant standard ins A2014-38 s 111 def relevant supplier ins A2004-13 amdt 1.5 def relevant utility ins A2003-41 amdt 3.304 om A2004-13 amdt 1.5 def responsible gasfitter sub A2014-38 s 112 def reviewable decision ins A2008-37 amdt 1.221 def sell ins A2003-41 amdt 3.304 am A2014-38 s 113 def trader ins A2003-41 amdt 3.304 am A2014-38 s 113 def *utility* om A2012-32 s 53 def type A gas appliance ins A2014-38 s 114 def type A gas appliance work ins A2014-38 s 114 def type B gas appliance ins A2014-38 s 114 def type B gas appliance work ins A2014-38 s 114

R14 30/03/15 Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15

5 Earlier republications

## 5 Earlier republications

Some earlier republications were not numbered. The number in column 1 refers to the publication order.

Since 12 September 2001 every authorised republication has been published in electronic pdf format on the ACT legislation register. A selection of authorised republications have also been published in printed format. These republications are marked with an asterisk (\*) in column 1. Electronic and printed versions of an authorised republication are identical.

Republication No	Amendments to	Republication date
1	A2001-44	12 September 2001
2	A2001-44	20 December 2001
3	A2002-11	31 May 2002
4	A2002-51	1 January 2003
5	A2003-41	9 October 2003
6	A2004-15	9 April 2004
7	A2004-15	1 September 2004
8	A2008-15	1 July 2008
9	A2008-28	26 August 2008
10	A2008-37	2 February 2009
11*	A2009-20	22 September 2009
12	A2011-23	7 July 2011
13	A2012-32	1 July 2012

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page 66

Gas Safety Act 2000 Effective: 30/03/15-13/10/15 R14 30/03/15