Customs Tariff (Uranium Concentrate Export Duty) Amendment Bill 1989

Date Introduced: 1 March 1989
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. Barry Jones, M.P., Minister for Science, Customs and Small Business

Digest of Bill

Purpose
To increase the rate of duty on exported uranium concentrate mined in the Alligator Rivers area.

Background
A duty was imposed on the export of uranium concentrate mined in the Alligator Rivers area by the Customs Tariff (Uranium Concentrate Export Duty) Act 1980 (the Principal Act). Funds raised through the duty are used to finance the operations of the Office of the Supervising Scientist (OSS) which is responsible for monitoring, controlling and conducting research into the environmental effects of uranium mining in the Alligator Rivers area. Estimated operational cost of the OSS in 1988–89 is $6.6 million, an increase of $0.8 million on 1987–88. The provision of $6.6 million in 1988–89 includes once only funding for the construction of two new houses and the start of a new environmental radioactivity laboratory which is to be completed in 1989–90.¹

In the 1988–89 Budget the Treasurer announced that the rate of duty would be increased from $1.02 per kilogram of uranium concentrate to $1.15 per kilogram of uranium concentrate. The increased duty will raise an estimated $4.5 million in 1988–89.²

Main Provisions
The Bill will operate from 8 p.m. on 23 August 1989 (clause 2).

The rate of duty on uranium concentrate will be increased from $1.02 per kilogram to $1.15 per kilogram (clause 3).

The increased rate will not apply to uranium concentrate from the Alligator Rivers Region loaded on to a vessel before the commencement of this Bill (clause 4).
References

For further information, if required, contact the Economics and Commerce Group.

2 March 1989

2 March 1989

Bills Digest Service
Legislative Research Service

This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

© Commonwealth of Australia 1989

Except to the extent of the uses permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, including information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written consent of the Department of the Parliamentary Library. Reproduction is permitted by Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth in the course of their official duties.