CLAUSE NOTES

GAS INDUSTRY AMENDMENT BILL 2020

Clause I	Provides the short title for the Act as the Gas Industry Amendment Act 2020.
Clause 2	Provides that the Act will commence on the day it receives Royal Assent.
Clause 3	Provides that the Act being amended (the Principal Act) is the Gas Industry Act 2019.
Clause 4	Provides for the amendment of Section 3 of the Principal Act to include the meaning of new terms introduced in the Act, as drafted in subclauses (a) through to (d). These terms provide clarity about the purpose for which gas Codes can be made including for small customer protection, and clarifying that a licence is required to sell gas by way of a distribution system.
Clause 5	Provides for the amendment of Section 97(1) of the Principal Act by expressly providing that Codes may be issued for the protection of small customers.
Clause 6	Provides for the substitution of Section 99 of the Principal Act to provide greater flexibility for the Tasmanian Economic Regulator when reviewing or changing Codes. The intention of these provisions is to enable either the Regulator or the Minister to review, amend, rescind or replace Codes. It also requires the Regulator and the Minister to inform the other about the intention to review, amend, rescind or replace a Code. The provisions also ensure consistency with the Minister's powers under the Principal Act.
Clause 7	Provides for the repeal of the Act on the first anniversary of the day on which it commenced.