

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING AMENDMENT BILL
(Serial 67)

Mr ROBERTSON (Attorney-General): Mr Speaker, I seek leave of the Assembly to move on behalf of the Minister for Primary Production a notice standing in his name. As you announced this morning, Sir, there is a sad occasion this afternoon and the honourable minister is still at that occasion.

Leave granted.

Bill presented and read a first time.

Mr ROBERTSON (Attorney-General): Mr Speaker, I move that the bill be now read a second time. The Agricultural Development and Marketing Authority was established by the Agricultural Development and Marketing Act which came into operation on 30 May 1980. The task of the authority was to commence a 2-stage program to promote agricultural development in the Territory. Stage 2 of the program will not commence unless its implementation is justified by the results of stage 1.

Section 3 of the act provides that the authority shall cease to exist on 30 June 1985. The reason for the sunset clause was to enable the Legislative Assembly to review the activities of the authority and consider the need for its continuation after 5 years of operation. As already advised to honourable members, Martin Corporation Ltd was commissioned by the government in January 1984 to conduct a detailed review of the authority and the industry it supports. In its conclusion, Martin Corporation Ltd held that another 5 years would be required before a reasonable judgment of the viability can be made. In view of these matters, the government has decided to introduce this bill to extend the life of the authority for 5 years up to 30 June 1990. I commend the bill to honourable members.

Debate adjourned.

PETROLEUM BILL
(Serial 70)

Continued from 23 August 1984.

Mr LEO (Nhulunbuy): Mr Speaker, this bill is similar to another bill, Serial 61, which was debated last week. Some of the amendments caused me concern and I hoped that the honourable minister would be back in time to answer those for me.

My principal concern relates to clause 108 in this bill. The clause relates to certain operations being prohibited. I will quote the relevant parts of the clause in the previous bill:

*No permittee or licensee may carry out operations, which would otherwise be permitted by this act, upon private land that is -
(a) used as, or within 50 m of land being used as a residence, yard, garden, orchard or cultivated field.*

The clause in this new bill reads: 'Lawfully used as ...'. The significant difference there is the inclusion of the word 'lawfully'. I am not too sure what is the status of Aboriginal town camps. Before this debate is over, I would like the Attorney-General to reassure me that Aboriginal people living in somewhat precarious situations where an oil lease may be taken up will not be