

# NSW Rocketry Association Inc.



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## SUBMISSION BY NSW ROCKETRY ASSOCIATION INC. REMAKING REGULATIONS FOR THE NSW EXPLOSIVES INDUSTRY

We recently discovered that some changes are intended to be made to the regulations for the NSW explosives industry. Our activity uses articles which are included in these regulations.

We are thankful for the opportunity to participate in this and we have identified a number of omissions regarding model rocket propellant devices in the existing documentation. We will submit a response to the survey, but in this supporting letter we have set out the requested amendments.

Model rocketry is obviously not a major focus of the regulations and therefore over time it would seem that certain inconsistencies have arisen in relation to this class of explosives. We recommend that the following changes be made to the re-issued regulations.

### CLAUSE 29 AMENDMENT

Model rocket propellant devices are defined in the regulations ("Dictionary" section, page 51):

***model rocket propellant device*** means an article that—

- (a) consists of a case in which there is a substance or substances that burn rapidly when ignited, and
- (b) with or without other articles, is intended to be part of the propulsion system of a model rocket.

Part (b) of this definition has been omitted in Clause 29. The wording that needs to be included is in red:

### **29 Pyrotechnician's licence**

A pyrotechnician's licence authorises the licence holder to carry out the following activities—

- (a) purchasing, possessing, using, storing and transporting display fireworks,
- (b) purchasing, possessing, using, storing and transporting a distress signal, otherwise than for the intended purposes of a distress signal,
- (c) purchasing, possessing, using, storing and transporting a model rocket propellant device containing an ignitable substance or ignitable substances exceeding 62.5 grams in mass, **with or without other articles** (see note 1). **Other articles includes propellant powder, not exceeding 1.2kg** (see note 2)

## DIVISION 5 / CLAUSE 49 AMENDMENT

There is no further mention of model rocket propellant devices in the regulations. We believe that this is an oversight. Clause 49 and the accompanying table should to be amended to rectify this:

### Division 5 Exceptions from licence requirements—miscellaneous

#### **49 Power device cartridges, distress signals, life-saving appliances, toy fireworks and model rocket propellant devices:**

(1) A person is not required to be authorised by a licence to possess, transport, store, use, sell or supply the following explosives—

- (a) power device cartridges,
- (b) distress signals,
- (c) life-saving appliances, including air bag inflators and seatbelt pretensioners,
- (d) toy fireworks,
- (e) model rocket propellant devices containing an ignitable substance or ignitable substances not exceeding 62.5 grams in mass

**Table**

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b>Type of explosive</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Power device cartridges	10,000 in number
Distress signals	10 kg NEQ
Life-saving appliances, including air bag inflators, air bag modules and seatbelt pretensioners of hazard division 1.4, that are—	
(a) not installed in vehicles, or	
(b) not in complete vehicle components.	10 kg NEQ
Toy fireworks	1 tonne, including packaging
Model rocket propellant devices containing an ignitable substance or ignitable substances not exceeding 62.5 grams in mass	20 kg NEQ

**Notes:**

1. This makes the wording consistent with that for the existing definition.
2. Most model rocket propellant devices also contain a small quantity of propellant powder to deploy the recovery system. Certain model rocket designs require the use of propellant powder separate from the propellant device. The minimum quantity of propellant powder that can be purchased is 1kg. 1.2kg is one-tenth of what is allowed under a firearms licence.

Thank you for your attention and please feel free to contact us if you need further information.

Yours sincerely

David Cumming

Secretary

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