

December 2019

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## TIMOR LESTE

### SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE PETROLEUM ACT

By Law 6/2019, of 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019, the National Parliament approved a second amendment to the Petroleum Act (Law 13/2005, of 2 September 2005, as amend by Law 1/2019, of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019), which entered into force on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

This Second Amendment reflects into the Petroleum Act the provisions of the recent (i) Maritime Boundary Treaty entered into between Timor-Leste and Australia, which superseded the Timor Sea Treaty, and (ii) the Decree-Law on Offshore Petroleum Operations, already taking also into consideration some features of the draft Decree-Law on Onshore Petroleum Operations, currently still under discussion.

The most relevant amendments include:

- the State's participation in Petroleum Activities;
- the procurement of Timor-Leste goods and services;
- the carrying out of maritime operations, directly or indirectly related to Petroleum Operations; and
- the use of Suai Supply Base facilities for Petroleum Activities.

Further to the launching of the 2019-2020 Second Licensing Round, Timor-Leste recently issued the pre-qualification guidelines for the award of petroleum contracts in 18 new Blocks (both onshore and offshore).