



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Bill 71

An Act to amend the Watercourses Act

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr John Ciaccia
Minister of Energy and Resources**



**Québec Official Publisher
1988**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The object of this bill is to simplify the procedure applicable to the leasing of hydraulic power vested in the public domain.

The bill maintains the prohibition regarding transfers of hydraulic power vested in the public domain with the exception of the hydraulic power that may be put at the disposal of Hydro-Québec and specifies the circumstances in which the leasing of hydraulic power will be authorized by law or by Government order.

Finally, the bill contains concordance amendments to the Mining Act.

ACT AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Mining Act (1987, chapter 64).

Bill 71

An Act to amend the Watercourses Act

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Section 3 of the Watercourses Act (R.S.Q., chapter R-13) is replaced by the following section:

“3. The transfer of hydraulic power vested in the public domain is prohibited subject to section 32 of the Hydro-Québec Act (R.S.Q., chapter H-5).

The lease of hydraulic power vested in the public domain is permitted only

(1) where the hydraulic power is necessary for the operation, at a specific place along a watercourse, of a hydro-electric power plant generating more than 25 megawatts, such lease being, in every case, authorized by law;

(2) where hydraulic power is necessary for the operation, at a specific place along a watercourse, of a hydro-electric power plant generating 25 megawatts or less or where the lessee is a municipality, such lease being authorized by the Government and made subject to the conditions it determines.”

2. Section 67 of the Mining Act (1987, chapter 64) is amended by replacing the words “the natural force referred to in section 3 of the Watercourses Act (R.S.Q., chapter R-13)” in the second and third lines of the first paragraph by the words “225 kilowatts at its ordinary flow during six months”.

3. Section 106 of the said Act is amended by replacing the words “the natural force referred to in section 3 of the Watercourses Act” by the words “225 kilowatts at its ordinary flow during six months”.

4. Section 150 of the said Act is amended by replacing the words “the natural force referred to in section 3 of the Watercourses Act” by the words “225 kilowatts at its ordinary flow during six months”.

5. This Act comes into force on (*insert here the date of assent to this Act*).