



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

Our reference: MD15/190

Mr Graham Mackney
grahammackney@bigpond.com

Dear Mr Mackney

I refer to your email to the NSW Minister for the Environment, Rob Stokes MP, regarding the harvesting and transportation of kangaroos for sale across state borders. Your email was referred to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and I have been asked to reply.

The commercial harvesting of kangaroos in NSW is regulated through the *NSW Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Management Plan 2012-16* and section 126 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. This Plan and legislation allows for licenced operators to import and export kangaroos to and from NSW. In order for applicants to be granted a licence the applicant must already hold a fauna or skin dealer's licence in NSW. All import or export activities must be conducted in accordance with the Plan and the equivalent management practices in other states.

OEH kangaroo management staff have meet regularly with their Queensland counterparts to discuss ways to improve regulation and management of commercial kangaroo harvesting.

OEH recognises the increased financial costs for kangaroo harvesters who operate across state borders and is currently undertaking a review of its Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Program to identify efficiencies and to reduce the regulatory burden on businesses in NSW. As part of this review we will consider your proposal for dual registration of chiller premises.

If you have any further questions with regard to harvesting and transporting kangaroos, please contact Mr Stephen Wolter, Senior Team Leader Kangaroo Management Section, OEH,

Yours sincerely,

19/2/15

MONICA COLLINS
Director North Branch
Regional Operations



Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

Ref CTS 28640/14

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05 DEC 2014

The Honourable Lawrence Springborg MP
Minister for Health
Member for Southern Downs
PO Box 444
STANTHORPE QLD 4380

Dear Minister

Lawrence

Thank you for your letter of 17 November 2014 making representation on behalf of Mr Graham Mackney of Goondiwindi concerning cross border business opportunities for commercial macropod harvesting.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection regulates the commercial harvest of macropods through population monitoring, setting harvest quotas and licensing of the harvest, buying and processing activities to ensure the harvest is sustainable.

Commercial Macropod Harvesting activities in Queensland are regulated through the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and subordinate legislation. The Nature Conservation (Macropod) Conservation Plan 2005 contains details on where and how such activities must be conducted. The current legislation allows for macropods harvested in another state to be bought at a licensed Queensland site, if the requirements under the other state's legislation are met.

The department meets regularly with the New South Wales Kangaroo Management Program to discuss cross border issues and ways to improve the regulation of the commercial harvest of macropods.

The Nature Conservation (Macropod) Conservation Plan 2005 is currently being reviewed, which provides a great opportunity to reduce red tape and allow industries to adopt modern and innovative ways to do business. Mr Mackney's comments regarding dual licensed sites will be considered in the review that will be finalised in 2015.

I hope this information is of assistance when replying to your constituent. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact my Chief of Staff, Mr Troy Collings

Yours sincerely

ANDREW POWELL MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection



HON LAWRENCE SPRINGBORG MP

MEMBER FOR SOUTHERN DOWNS

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Hon A Powell, MP,
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection,
GPO Box 2454,
BRISBANE. 4001

17 NOV 2014

Dear Mr Powell,

I recently met with Graham Mackney, Goondiwindi, who conducts a business which not only harvests but also purchases and distributes kangaroos. Mr Mackney operates his business on the Queensland side of the Queensland/New South Wales border in Goondiwindi.

Mr Mackney has many shooters from New South Wales who would like the opportunity to be able to deliver kangaroo products to him for distribution into the domestic and export market.

However, for Mr. Mackney to operate such a business, he has to have an accredited licenced facility not only in Queensland but also in New South Wales. Mr Mackney has been in contact with and had discussions with officers from your department in Queensland and also with similar officers from New South Wales as well as New South Wales Members of Parliament and the Cross Border Commissioner.

Everyone seems to agree that there could be much done to reduce the red tape involved by introducing amendments apropos the attached e-mail from Graham Mackney, whereby reciprocal powers were given to compliance officers under your department and the New South Wales department to be able to inspect facilities in these situations and in cross border circumstances.

It would ensure that shooters were able to bring kangaroos into Queensland from New South Wales, appropriately tagged with New South Wales tags, and New South Wales Officers would be recognised to come into Queensland to ensure that appropriate rules, regulations and compliance requirements were adequately followed.

To me this seems like an extremely logical proposition. It appears to have support from officers within your department and also from similar officers in New South Wales. However, what is does appear through to require is legislative changes to enable it to happen.

As Mr Mackeny appropriately points out to me, if he were to set up a facility on the New South Wales side of the border, it would be a duplication of facilities maybe a kilometre across the border and would require a duplication of freezers, electricity charges and also add great and significant costs to his business at a time when the kangaroo industry is struggling with diminishing margins.

I would appreciate any assistance that you can provide to assist in bringing about the necessary legislative changes at some time in the future and if such a thing could also be reciprocated for New South Wales but only in near cross border situations such as the one detailed above.

I just wish to reinforce the point that from my perspective, these are the sorts of issues that I deal with on a daily basis in my electorate which are not appreciated by people who live away from border communities.

I await your assistance and advice.

Yours sincerely,

Lawrence Springborg, MP,
MEMBER FOR SOUTHERN DOWNS.



*With the Compliments of
Lawrence Springborg M.P.
Member for Southern Downs*

*COPY FOR YOUR
INFORMATION*

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