

From: Henchman Alistair
Sent: Wednesday, 26 March 2008 10:08 AM
To: 'pamela.mathic@act.gov.au'
Cc: Corbyn Lisa
Subject: kangaroos at Belconnen Naval Transmitting Station

Pamela

Following is the response of the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change to the particular references made in the Wildcare proposal for managing kangaroos at the site.

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NSW NPWS staff are listed as being part of the relocation team.

The Department has not offered to be part of a relocation team. The Department had offered to provide assistance of a technical and advisory nature should a translocation go ahead but has specifically stated that we are not able to second staff to such a project.

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"it is not the case that the responsible authority in NSW would not support the importation of eastern grey kangaroos."

The Department's position is that we are prepared to consider a proposal, however we would normally only consider translocation where it was essential for the survival of a species, which doesn't appear to be the case in this situation. We have previously provided the Commissioner advice about the information requirements necessary for us to consider such a proposal. The Department has not received any proposal for translocation of these kangaroos and so we cannot say whether or not we would support a specific proposal.

NPWS have offered to second staff to be involved in the relocation

No such offer has been made - in fact the Department advised Defence in June 2007 that we would be unable to second staff to the project.

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"We have been advised that there is no policy obstacle to such a translocation"

We have advised Defence that the Department does not have or administer any policies or laws that prevent the implementation of a carefully considered translocation proposal.

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Experts consulted

The members of the senior executive of the Department are not experts in animal relocations and their advice was limited to the policy and resourcing matters mentioned above as well as advice about the information requirements for any application. The Endangered Species Unit staff member listed has experience in managing threatened species but not specific experience in relocation of species.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

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